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Cole, Smith, Lane, Spink gunning again for Hellas



Gary Cole



Steve Smith



Warren Spink



Sean Lane

Giants lock horns

McCulloch to APIA

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Makedonia's sensational four-man attack takes on the might of NSL champion South Melbourne Hellas at Connor Reserve on Sunday, aiming to down Hellas for the third time in a month.

Gary Cole, all-time top scorer in NSL competitions, with a total of 111 goals, continues his battle with Sydney Hakoah's John Kosmina, who has edged up to 104 — but Kosmina will find the going tough against APIA at Lambert Park on Sunday.

APIA star Arno Bertogna who is excelling in a new position, almost certainly will be joined in midfield by Tommy McCulloch of Marconi. As we went to Press, Marconi and APIA were negotiating a swap between McCulloch and transfer-listed APIA star Ian Gray.



Charlie Egan



Doug Brown

But back to the clash of the super strikers at Connor Reserve.

Sean Lane, Steve Smith, Gary Cole, Warren Spink — that's the mighty Makedonia forward line. All are expert scorers. All are enormously aggressive and creative.

In opposition, Hellas offers livewire Charlie Egan who scored twice against Green Gully in the opening round, and Doug Brown, NSL top scorer over the past two seasons but yet to strike form in 1985.

Can Hellas handle the Makedonia firing line? Egan thinks so. "Makedonia may have four strikers, but that leaves them open in other areas. We'll exploit those areas, and we'll win," he said.

But Makedonia already has beaten Hellas twice this year, in the Buffalo Gold Cup and the National Cup. In both cases, the score was 1-0, with Con Opasinos scoring in the night game and Smith in the National Cup.

I feel the game will be won by the team that takes the initiative quickly and forces the other out of stride and onto the defensive. Makedonia did so against Hellas last time.

Some at Makedonia believe that the mid-field isn't as strong as Hellas's. This match will provide the ultimate test. Carl Halford, Gary McDowell and Ken Murphy played particularly well for Hellas in midfield against Green Gully but Zoran Jloski is in sparkling form for Makedonia, and Gordon Flavell is as reliable as ever as the midfield anchor man.

Continued page 4



Tommy McCulloch of Marconi — set to join APIA.

VALERI SACKED!

Inter-Monaro was rocked by dissension and resignations — and the transfer listing of one of its most faithful servants, Walter Valeri — just 48 hours before last Sunday's game against Canberra Olympians.

Valeri has been transferred for \$5,000.

It came as a total surprise to Queenbeyan's soccer fraternity.

Valeri had captained the Monaro side in its pre-season run against Marconi and has been associated with the club for most of his playing career.

Then came the shock resignation of Monaro's team manager, Frank Bru-

nacci — a resignation officially put down to Valeri's behaviour!

For years Valeri has been regarded as one of the gentlemen of the game and a model of effort and determination on the park.

Whether his name will be removed from the transfer list is uncertain.

Certainly right now tempers are running hot and if this is to happen it will take some time.

Monaro is also still without experienced goalkeeper Steve Hozowski who bought out his contract from former Canberra coach Doug Collins for \$1,500 only to find the transfer attempt had not been approved by Canberra's board of directors.

Canberra now is asking \$3,000 for Hozowski and \$4,000 for Angelo Ambrosino.

Last year Ambrosino played on loan from Canberra to Monaro after the previous year having done well in Italian fourth division soccer as a full-time professional.

With rumors of a drastically reduced sponsorship pay-out from Readynews, it is unlikely that Monaro can afford one — let alone both players.

It would, however, be a pity if both were forced out of the game because of a transfer fee wrangle.

PETER WINDSOR



Walter Valeri

'Mitch' here March 22

Socceroo striker David Mitchell has been granted a conditional clearance by Glasgow Rangers.

Mitchell was given the clearance on the understanding that should he return to the UK within the next two years, Rangers will ask a \$32,000 fee.

He has made a provisional booking to leave Scotland on March 18 and is expected to arrive in Australia to rejoin Adelaide City on March 22.

— ALLAN CRISP



David Mitchell

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A MESSAGE FOR THE CHAMPS ...

Angele's after Hellas' blood!

"The taste of blood is still in the mouth," says Joe Angele. "We feel we should have won the league last year and that final defeat against Hellas will stay fresh all this coming season as a spur for everyone at Heidelberg."

"That is why we're going to win the league this year — and we're going to win it convincingly."

One hell of a statement from a confident young man, especially since Joe Angele comes over as a bright academic who weighs every word.

Angele off the field is in complete contrast to the aggressive, hard-tackling and uncompromising stopper he has developed into in just over a year under coach Brian Garvey.

Angele is 23, doing his final year in architecture and combining a full-time job with his studies and soccer.

Angele is the older brother of Fawcater midfielder Fab as well as three other sports-mad young lads, one of whom already has represented Australia at tennis. And Joe Angele no doubt will keep the stopper's position even if Don MacLeod and/or Arthur Xanthopoulos sign for Heidelberg this year.

But that is oversimplifying things and it's best to let Angele do the talking to understand what goes on behind that bulk which along with Charlie Yankos provides the most formidable defensive partnership in the National League.

About that final defeat Hellas last year: "That match is the highlight of my soccer career so far, even though we lost."

"The atmosphere of the big crowd and the fact that everything went right for me had something to do with it."

"But more than anything else it proved that we were back in gear at Heidelberg."

"We were thrashed by Juventus 5-1 almost two months before and losing by such a big margin hit us hard."

By PETER DESIRA

"It may have been the inexperience but we struggled for a long time (Heidelberg took only three points from the remaining four matches) and I for one started getting funny thoughts in the back of my mind about ability."

"But getting to the final and being so much on top only to lose because we were a man short restored the confidence and that is why no matter what happens that match will always be a spur."

The confidence about Heidelberg doing well comes from the atmosphere that exists at the club.

"It's kind of a big family where everyone gets on well with one another."

"Even if players get dropped they understand the situation. We are a very young side who know our limitations and having experienced one season together have developed a unique understanding."

"Don MacLeod even now gives me a few hints to improve my game, which is a great thing when you consider that we are competing for the same position."

The possibility of either MacLeod or Xanthopoulos being Heidelberg squad members for 1985 is regarded as another spur by Angele.

"Right throughout my soccer career I have had to compete under pressure. I am not worried if either of them is there this year. It will only gear me up a lot more and make me work harder," he says. Xanthopoulos has been training with Heidelberg in anticipation of getting a transfer from South Melbourne Hellas while MacLeod is hanging over a new contract with the club.

Angele sorted out contract hassles early, signing a new, two-year contract in December.

"At the end of the season there were stories I would be going to Juventus."

"I had phone calls from people connected from Juve and I wasn't too sure about the situation at Heidelberg because there was a lot of talk about the structure

of new contracts with no signing-on fees but with big bonuses for matches."

"But I must admit I am happy at Heidelberg because of the professional atmosphere that exists at the club."

Most of the atmosphere is generated by Garvey, who has left the biggest impression with Angele of an impressive list of coaches he has played under.

"Brian is very professional with the players. He impressed me because he understands what players go through."

"He has a great knowledge of the game and has the right personality."

"He is also a bit of a mystery to us — nobody knows him completely because although he will have a drink with the players he hasn't become one of the boys as has happened with other coaches in the past and none of us know all that much about him."

The coaches Angele has played under include Jack Reilly, Jimmy Rooney, Len McKendry and Manny Poulakakis while he was with Heidelberg's Second Division team and Ken Morton and Garvey at NSL level.

During his junior days, Fausto Tarquinio and Pat Della Rocca were his coaches at Juventus and he also played under Bill Curran and Rale Rasic in the Victorian junior state teams.

"At junior level, Fausto Tarquinio was the best coach I played under. He taught me a lot and had a similar professional attitude to Garvey."

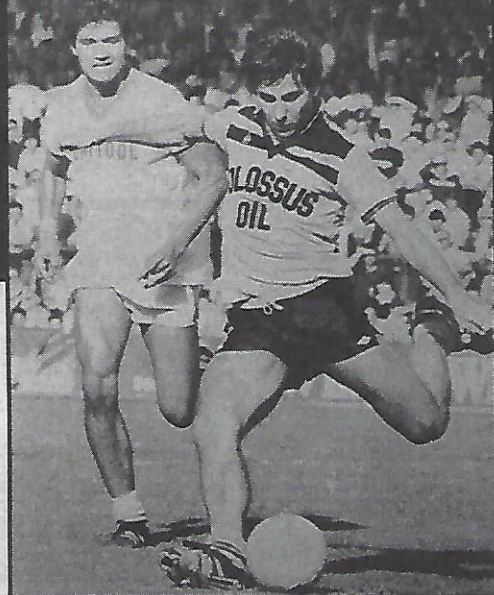
"In actual fact, Juve has always had really good junior coaches and it's a shame that Juventus does not pay enough attention to giving its upcoming youngsters a go."

"If you go through players like Oscar Crino, Yankos and the like there is quite a number of us who had our start there."

Angele moved from Juventus to Heidelberg largely because of his studies.

"I was doing my HSC at the time and living in MacLeod, so Heidelberg suited me better than having to travel to the city three nights a week for training."

"I have been disappointed with the attitude of the Italian supporters who boo me



Heidelberg stopper Joe Angele prepares to shoot. Roddy Vasquez of Brisbane Lions is in pursuit. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

every time we play Juventus because they feel I should be playing for them."

"Sure, I am Italian, but I don't look at it like that — I play for the love of the game and nationalities shouldn't come into it."

Studies still form a large part of Angele's life at the moment.

"I am already working as an architect although I have a year to go before I get my degree."

"I study at night at RMIT on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Brian Garvey has excused me from training on Tuesday nights as long as I do extra training on my own."

"I have two hours spare before classes and usually I work out on the Olympic Park track mainly trying to improve my sprinting."

Athletics formed a large part of Angele's early sporting interest.

"I've always been sports-minded but did not get interested in soccer until our family went back to Italy for about two years when I was 13."

"For the first weeks in Rome I was kicking an Aussie Rules football around but that didn't last long with all the other kids playing soccer."

"We lived in a huge skyscraper and the games were always pretty involved — skyscraper against the next skyscraper I suppose would be the best way to describe them."

The interest remained once the family returned to Melbourne but it is only Angele and brother Fab stayed with the sport.

His 18 year old brother, Rob, is a tennis fanatic and has just come back from playing overseas while the younger twins are into hurdles and basketball.

"Fab had an ankle injury recently and I was disappointed at missing the chance of us two playing against each other for the first time in the Buffalo Gold Cup."

"I suppose it will come one day — we'll just have to forget brotherly love for those 90 minutes when it happens."

Both Angeles are — to put it lightly — sturdily built so it comes as a surprise that Joe never has worked on weight.

"I've never touched them — I've basically built the muscles from beach running and playing any sport from wind-surfing to tennis and squash," he said.

Heidelberg gave Angele its most improved player award last season. But he looks at it as a frustrating year from one aspect.

"I was very surprised — and very pleased I must add — with the award, and it was even more significant when Brian (Garvey) came and sat down with me afterwards and told me he was happy with the way I played last year."

"But it was also a very frustrating season in that I was unable to settle into the one position."

"I practically played in every spot bar goalkeeper through the year and that stopped me from developing any consistency."

"This year I have been slotted in at stopper, the position in which I'm most comfortable, and I have already worked out a good understanding with Charlie Yankos during the Buffalo Gold Cup and the NSL Cup games."

"In one way, I suppose it was good to get the experience in the different spots because it helps to get a grasp of all the different positions."

Of the two, Yankos is the one with the free licence to go forward when the opportunity presents itself.

"I am naturally defensive-minded and when I do go forward the cover in defence is always in the back of my mind."

"I'm still waiting to score my first goal, for Heidelberg. That's my next target and it will come eventually, I suppose," he adds with a somewhat shy grin.

What would be really nice is for Angele to score that goal in the final of the NSL championship play-offs — the winner for Heidelberg of course!

Personal details: Joe Angele — born February 11, 1962 in Melbourne. Represented Victoria at U13s, U14s, U15s, U16s, U19s. Member of Victorian Youth team which won the National Youth championship 1979. Has played 33 NSL matches for Heidelberg 1983-84. Member of Buffalo Cup winning team Feb 85. Winner of most improved player award at Heidelberg 1984.

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ISRAEL BETTER: AROK

The Socceroos will be away from the hustle and bustle of Tel Aviv when they visit Israel for a vital world cup elimination match on October 8.

Final choice for the Aussies' "Home Away From Home" is likely to be a comfortable hotel, which is outside the Metropolis, but only 15 minutes' drive from the stadium. This was indicated by coach Frank Arok who returned from a flying visit of five days to Israel. He inspected three hotels before narrowing the available choice down to one.

Arok considered his hurried visit, which took in the friendly international between Israel and Ireland — drawn 0-0 — extremely worthwhile, if somewhat exhausting.

"While originally I was going to fly over and see the match between Spain and Scotland — one of which is likely to play against the winner of our sub-group for a place in the 1986 finals — the trip to Tel Aviv was more important," he said.

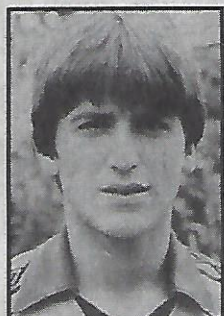
"There is plenty of information available about European teams, but everything I saw in Tel Aviv was new to us and there is a lot to learn from it."

The Socceroo boss described the Israeli national team as having a similar style to that which we saw from the youth side in Sydney recently.

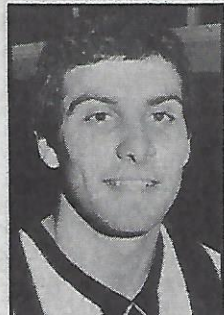
"They are a better team than we are at the moment," said Arok. "They play skilful soccer, with slow, methodical build-ups, trying to surprise with sudden changes of tempo. We will have a way to counter those tactics, at least I know what kind of players they have and I have an idea now of what we will have to do to beat them. We will have to use a different style against them and utilise some of the things we learned on our tour of Europe."

"The Israel team is very skilful and displayed good understanding and teamwork, but I believe we can beat them."

— PETER SCOTT



• Oscar Crino — like Angele he got his start at Juventus.



• Fausto Tarquinio — the best junior coach Angele played under.

NSL magazine

• The NSL in an effort to polish up its rather inept public relations image, has launched two initiatives.

A monthly magazine, rather unimaginatively titled "NSL News" will hit the news stands on April 1.

A 32-page colour production, it will be modelled on England's popular "Shoot" magazine, and is aimed at capturing an audience in the 12 to 16 age groups.

In the meantime the NSL also has engaged the services of public relations company Jarratt Communications Pty Ltd for a period of 15 weeks, with the placing of features with the media as the main

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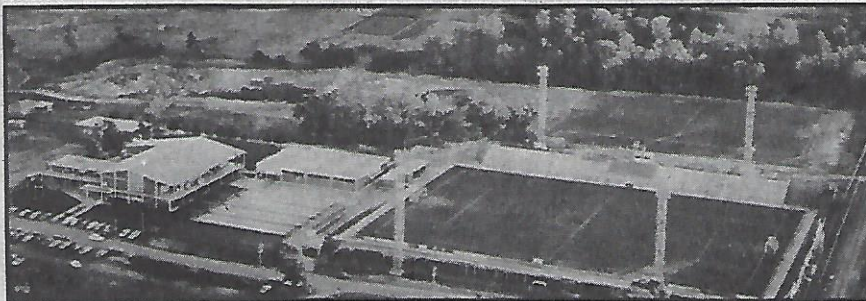
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Marconi used to pack them in. Will the crowds return in 1985?



The impressive Marconi complex at Bossley Park, with its floodlit ground, and social club (left).



Lee Sterrey of Sydney Croatia — a possible Marconi recruit

MARCONI

'The once stirring, buzzing terraces are half empty and eerily quiet'

Rats have the instinct of leaving sinking ships; not for them the celluloid role of a captain going down grimly, saluting. Of course, Marconi is anything but a sinking ship and no player deserves the unflattering comparison with rats. Yet the fact remains that quite a few of the club's stars have left or are in the process of leaving.

Few clubs anywhere in Australia — certainly none in Sydney — can match the soccer splendour of Club Marconi: the compactness of its properties and facilities, on a modest scale, remind you of the set-up of such mighty examples as Real Madrid, River Plate and others.

As you approach Fairfield and Bossley Park, on the western fringes of Sydney, the closer you get to the stadium and clubhouse the more impressive the new subdivision look: splendid, if a trifle over-ornate brick palazzos with big terraces or balconies, Spanish hacienda-type villas, with lots of grotesque garden gnomes or white marble lions guarding the entrance, like so many modern-day Cerberuses.

This is a new, well-heeled little Italy with all the trimmings of their hard-earned wealth, the kind they could only dream of 'back home'.

On Sunday, the new, well appointed clubhouse is the latest, a people, the vast majority of them Italians from neighboring suburbs and streets.

The main hall is packed, mainly with men playing cards; at the far end rows of tingling, ringing, moaning poker machines. Then the restaurant, the canteen and coffeeshop all packed.

Outside the picture is equally bright. Just behind the main stadium's grandstand, whose dark-green, rich turf is without a single blemish, they have two full size, fully grassed, well kept training grounds with goals, lines, the lot.

Nearby are some tennis courts and a large barbecue area, outside the clubhouse a huge car parking lot with attendant.

Marconi, it seems, has everything: the perfect set-up to create and run a highly successful soccer organisation, perennially vying for top honors, a sort of Inter Milan or Juventus in the bush. They have what we used to say was needed to make a game of soccer in this country, all in one spot, all club owned and managed, damn the interfering councils.

And yet there are no signs of a returning boom. Marconi has been caught up in the overall football decline — the trends are clear here and overseas, almost everywhere except, paradoxically, in Italy.

The crowds of yesteryear, the 5,000 and more, have melted down to depressing levels, at times counted in paltry hundreds. With that vanished the old exuberance and excitement. The once stirring, buzzing terraces are half empty and eerily quiet.

Perhaps it would have helped had Marconi had a brilliant, title-winning team in recent years, but it didn't. The downhill slalom began after 1980, with the departure of Les Scheinflug. In 1981 Marconi escaped relegation narrowly and since then any serious revival has eluded the club under successive coaches.

To make it worse, Marconi fans cannot really expect any big improvement in 1985.

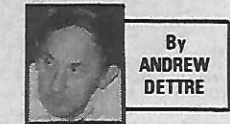
"When I came back here," says coach Les Scheinflug, "my natural ambition was to win the NSL title with Marconi. But now, with only about 12 senior players in the squad, we have to have more modest targets."

The team which only a year ago seemed awash with talent has wasted down to the barest essentials.

Antilio Carbone, that hard industrious young midfielder, has gone to Monaro, on loan for 1985 — but could be lost for good.

Ricky Budini is reportedly keen to follow Carbone to Monaro where good job prospects await him.

Vic Bozanic was still a Marconi player as we went to Press, but likely to leave and find a club closer to his Cooeege



By ANDREW DETTRE

restaurant. Bozanic could be had for about \$10,000 or less.

John Spanos, signed from Heidelberg less than two seasons ago, finds it hard to train three nights a week at Marconi as he works in the eastern suburbs, learning the tricks of the "rag trade" from Todd Clarke.

Bozanic and Spanos both were training with Sydney Hakoah.

Then there is the mystery of young Tommy McCulloch.

"He told me repeatedly that he won't play for Marconi again," says Les. "I don't know the reason. He's not even training with us."

So Tommy is out and on transfer for \$30,000 though the club's phone hasn't been running hot with callers.

Bertie Mariani, that versatile near-veteran and son of club president Cossimo, has gone back to APIA, on a free transfer.

Rene Licata, son of a committee man, is also on the move. Although APIA turned him down, Penrith is interested. It seems to be perilous to have a Marconi executive for a father.

Carbone, Budini, Bozanic, Spanos, McCulloch, Mariani, Licata — quite a litany of woes. To counter-balance it there is new chum Peter Tredinnick, an absolute bargain at \$10,000 from APIA, an amazing and continued omission from the Socceroo squad.

There could be others. Croatia's Lee Sterry ex-Melita goalie Alex McPherson could join while Marconi has also had talks with APIA's restless starlet, Ian Gray.

But will these be sufficient to lift Marconi's fortunes in 1985? Frankly, Marconi was most unimpressive in its NSL Cup match against Brisbane City: a disjointed, disorganised and idea-poor performance.

Highly-rated players often promoted towards Socceroo squad membership by their admirers, Red Brown and David Lowe, were disappointing though Lowe's mouth infection must be a valid excuse. Mark Jankovics, as so often in the past, looked cumbersome, his lack of refined skills is forgiven only if he gets among the goals. Craig Mason looked the part with his commanding presence but didn't quite deliver.

Young fullbacks Paul Carter and Joe Rizzotto ought to have matured by now to realise that those aimlessly flighted 40-metre balls, toward the goalmouth are pointless and merely prove that they are lacking in combative skills.

Then there is Peter Sharne, a spent rocket or comet or whatever other sobriquet the boulevard press had once invented

for him. Without his old speed and zest, he is like an ageing beauty queen hitting 50.

Sure, all of these players can and will play a lot better. Of course, Tony Henderson, will make a big difference to the defence provided he doesn't learn too many suspensions through a suspect temper.

But will all that be enough? The few bright signs on the horizon include that reliable goalie Bruce James, the arrival of Tredinnick, that talented youngster of German ancestry, Martin Dreine and the near certainty that the Brown-Lowe partnership will produce a modest crop of goals.

Another positive sign is that the club is financially stable.

"Marconi has no worries," says Scheinflug. "But the club doesn't want to overspend on soccer and for 1985 has given us only \$50,000. The rest we must produce from gates, sponsorship and functions."

Scheinflug's assistants read like an impressive who's who: Ron Corry and Alan Maher work with the various youth and junior teams while Mike Urakalo is Les' assistant. Urakalo, a qualified PT instructor, is now working for the Federal Department of Sport as a liaison officer with — of all things — the Judo Federation.

Marconi really has everything: it should be one of the happiest and most successful of our clubs. Instead, it is bracing itself for more player departures, more upheavals, more disappointing results.

Somehow, one feels, Marconi's problems are typical of soccer problems; what's happened to this great club has also happened to Australian soccer.

I don't know when, if ever, a revival is due. But I do know that Marconi will be at the forefront of it.



Marconi's John Spanos — training with Sydney City Hakoah, along with Vic Bozanic.

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Marconi's long-serving utility player Bertie Mariani, who has joined APIA.

Selemidis clears up photo phobia

• Heidelberg Alexander captain Theo Selemidis wants to set the record straight about his reticence in having a team photo taken before the Buffalo Gold Cup final two weeks ago.

"Soccer Action" photographer Les Shorrocks approached Selemidis just before the kick-off to get a team photo of Heidelberg. "We had come out onto the field a bit late and when Les approached me our lads were spread out all over one half of the pitch and the ref was in the middle preparing to start the match," said Selemidis.

"Another photographer, Des Pepp, had managed to get a quick snap of us but when Les approached me it just wasn't possible. It was a pretty nervous occasion for us, having lost so many friends, and I didn't fancy the idea of shouting to all the lads to come together for a photo when they were so keyed up."

"It's not that we're bad sports or superstitious or anything like that, it's just that there wasn't time and interrupting the players preparing for this big game wouldn't have been right, as far as I was concerned."

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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Biskic, Curcio back, Cannell, Young too

It should be a hell of a battle, a battle which, one would hope, will be decided by the forwards and the number of goals they score, rather than the defenders and the number of goals they prevent.

S. Geo Cross v. M. Croatia

Chaplin Reserve

Croatia grabbed top position on the Southern Division ladder by thrashing Adelaide City Juventus 3-0 and will be even stronger this week, due to the return of Josip Biskic from suspension and Tony Curcio from injury.

Young Ivica Juric will make way for Curcio in defence and Biskic will play on the right flank as usual. Drago Deankovic played well as a stand-in for Biskic in midfield against Adelaide City, but he probably will return to the right-back position, and with Curcio resuming as sweeper, Joao Antonic will return to central midfield.

Sunshine-George Cross, meanwhile, pulled off a surprise draw with Heidelberg-Alexander and has signed previously unsettled players Gerry Bennett, Chris Taylor and Roger Bain on new contracts.

BU-Juventus v. G. Gully

Olympic Park No. 2

Stuart Cannell and Andrew Young return to the Green Gully defence, and the rest of the players are determined to make amends for their 2-3 loss to Hellas in the first round.

Juventus coach John Marganitis surprisingly dropped star recruit Paul Wade (from Green Gully) to facilitate the return of Peter Lewis in the 1-2 loss to West Adelaide Hellas last Sunday, but Wade came in the game when Richard Miranda was injured.

Yakka Banovic of Juventus has the reputation, but it is Lou Denys of Green Gully who has been providing all the thrills in goal. Gully's best player in two successive games, Denys is sure to play a prominent part once more, holding the fort at the back while Paul Lewis and Claude Lucchesi carve out a Green Gully victory up front.

Heidelberg v. Foots JUST

Olympic Village

Heidelberg continues to wait for the return of star recruit George Christopoulos, who has been nursing a foot injury. Whether he would be back in time for this match was unclear as we went to press, but coach Brian Garvey was lamenting the lack of depth in his squad.

Heidelberg was held scoreless by George Cross last Sunday, while Footscray JUST lost 1-2 to Makedonia with Joe Carroll hitting the crossbar in the meantime. Carroll and Brian O'Donnell, by the way, are off the transfer list because no-one came forward to buy them, while ace defender Kyriakioulas was expected to resume training this week.

Blacktown is showing admirable spunk and quite a bit of flair from Alex Bundalo, Dominic Giannone and Bernie Godzik, but no-one will disagree that Sydney Croatia has a lot more talent, flair and scoring possibilities and should win quite comfortably.

Brisbane Lions v. WA-Hellas

Richlands

Graham Honeyman was

From page one

Sunday's NSL matches, with likely winners in capitals:

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Sunshine-George Cross v. MELBOURNE CROATIA at Chaplin Reserve, 3pm, referee: B. Upjohn.
B.U. Juventus v. GREEN GULLY at Olympic Park No. 2, 3pm, referee: C. Bambridge. PRESTON MAKEDONIA v. 5th Melb Hellas at Connor Reserve, 3pm, referee: S. Mellings.
HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER v. Footscray J.U.S.T. at Olympic Village, 3pm, referee: J. Fokianos.
BRISBANE LIONS v. West Adelaide Hellas at Richlands, 3pm, referee: D. Nugent.
ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS v. Brisbane City at Olympic Sports Field, 2.30 pm, referee: J. Rossi.

NORTHERN DIVISION

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS v. Penrith at Hawker Oval, 3pm, referee: G. Davies.
Wollongong v. SYDNEY CROATIA at Wollongong Showgrounds, 3pm, referee: T. Saucy.
MARCONI v. Newcastle-Rosebud at Marconi Stadium, 3pm, referee: R. Lorenz.
St. George Budapest v. SYDNEY OLYMPIC at St. George Stadium, 3pm, referee: T. Davies.
BLACKTOWN v. Inter Monaro at Gabbie Stadium, 3pm, referee: A. Owens.
APIA-LEICHHARDT v. SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH at Lambert Park, 3pm, referee: G. Power.

masterful in his 200th match last week and Gary Price from Adelaide Croatia scored in his NSL debut, but West Adelaide Hellas looks like being on the receiving end in the sauna bath conditions of Brisbane.

If things go as expected, John and Russell Stewart will dominate the midfield, setting up enough chances for the strikers to keep Lions well on target for a place in the finals.

AC-Juventus v. Brisb City

Olympic Sports Field

Adelaide Juventus will be much better at home than it was in losing 0-3 to Croatia in Melbourne, so it should be able to break down Brisbane City which will no doubt build a brick wall in front of its goal.

Juventus, however, must beware of pushing too many men forward. Marconi did so two weeks ago, and was beaten by Frank Mengotti's goal.

St George v. Syd. Olympic

St George Stadium

St George Budapest is awaiting the arrival of a First Division player from Yugoslavia and Rob O'Shea is set to resume after recovering from a broken leg.

In the meantime, however, I'm afraid Budapest is doomed to defeat against the Bouzouki brigade of Chris Kalantzis, Peter Katholos, Peter Raskopoulos, Nick Theodoropoulos and Marshall Supersides.

Wollongong v. Syd. Croatia

Wollongong Showgrounds

These two teams contributed five of the 20 goals scored in the Northern Division last Sunday, yet neither won!

Wollongong is showing admirable spunk and quite a bit of flair from Alex Bundalo, Dominic Giannone and Bernie Godzik, but no-one will disagree that Sydney Croatia has a lot more talent, flair and scoring possibilities and should win quite comfortably.

Can. Olympians v. Penrith

Hawker Oval

The Olympians' easy

victory over Inter Monaro was due in part to the unrest at Monaro just before the game (see separate story page one), although the influence of recruit Tommy English can't be underestimated.

Penrith strengthened its team last week by signing Rene Licata on loan from Marconi, and Bobby Hebb from Mt Druitt.

but I'll stick with results, and you can't argue with a 3-0 scoreline. Neither can you quibble about the fantastic form of Steve Bryant and Tommy Sermanni, so I'm going for Canberra Olympians.

Marconi v. N. Rosebud

Marconi Stadium

Marconi coach Les Scheinflug complained after drawing 3-3 with Sydney Croatia that Croatia had not deserved a penalty over Paul Carter's alleged foul on Zeljko Jurin. He claimed it was that decision which cost Marconi the match.

If so, Marconi may beat Newcastle-Rosebud, although the Iron men from the north are just that — iron in their resolve. Coach Willie Gallagher must be one of the most inspiring team bosses in the country, but at this stage, anyway, I don't think he's got quite as much talent at his disposal as Scheinflug has, even though Mark Jones has been a real find.

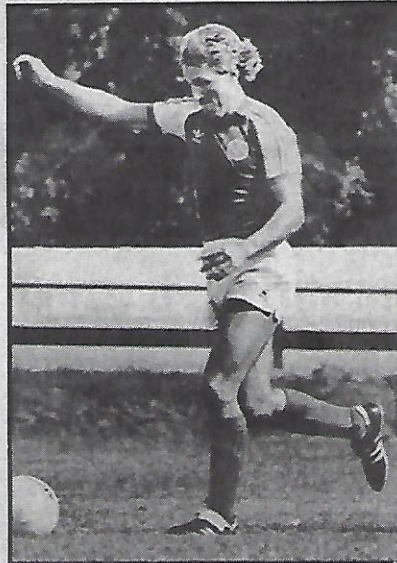
David Lowe will be keen to score against his former club, and we'll see an interesting midfield confrontation between Marconi's Mark Jankovics and Rosebud's Joe Senkalski.

Blacktown v. Inter-Monaro

Gabbie Stadium

Inter-Monaro will have to sort out the turmoil of last week before anyone is game to tip the Qwanbeyan side to beat anyone.

Blacktown may still be missing key defenders Cliff Punter (another week) and Chris Dunleavy (three weeks), but with Phil O'Connor, John Wadley and John Larkin up front, Blacktown should come home with the points.



Gary Ward — joined Melbourne Croatia from BU Juventus.

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NORTHERN DIVISION

APIA-LEICHHARDT 4 (Caligiuri 2nd & 14th, Willis own goal 55th, Genovese 80th). WOLLONGONG 2 (Bundalo 56th, Giannone 73rd) at Lambert Park. Crowd about 850. Ratings by Andrew Dettre:

APIA: Catlin 5 — Spina 5, Brown 5, Mariani 6, Rowden 5 — Bertogna 7, Colagiuri 7 (Canovese Admin. Casaradio 95min.). Butler 6 — Caban 4, D. Ceglie 5, Morsello 4. Coach: Phil Bortolotto.
WOLLONGONG: Vardareff 5 — Green 5, Matias 4, Hristovski 6, Dickson 5 — Kerr 5 (Bronik 56min) Godzik 6, Bundalo 6, Willis 6 — Kotamandis 5, Giannone 5. Coach: Adrian Alston.
Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Bertogna (APIA), 5. Colagiuri (APIA), 4. Bundalo (W), 3. Hristovski (W), 2. Godzik (W), 1. Butler (APIA).

HAKOAH 3 (Kosmina 15, 85, Barnes 23) BLACKTOWN CITY 1 (Knight 35) at Wentworth Park. Crowd: 1200. Ratings by Peter Scott:

HAKOAH: Clarke 7, Cant 5, Robertson 7, Steve O'Connor 7, De Marigny 7, Gomez 7, Watson 7, Barnes 7, Farina 7, Kosmina 8, Lee 7 (Fletcher 71st). Coach: Eddie Thomson.
BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare 6-Skellern 6, Rasmussen 6, Wheatley 7, Bourke 6-Knight 7, Selvaige 7 (Hormazabal 75th), Thorntwaite 6-Phil O'Connor 7, Bradley 6, Larkin 6. Coach: Casey de Bruin.
Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Kosmina, 5-Gomez (Both Hakoah), 4. Selvaige, 3. P. O'Connor (B Town), 2. Watson, 1. De Marigny (Hakoah).

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS 3 (English 36th, Sermanni 50th, Peninovic 86) at MONARO 0 at Seiffert Oval, Qwanbeyan. Crowd: 2,100. Ratings by Peter Windsor:

CANBERRA: Franken 7, Mihailidis 7, Burke 7, Harkins 7, Jones 7-Sermanni 8, Byrne 7, Bryant 9-Gibson 7 (Ontong 87th), Peninovic 7, English 8. Coach: Roy Thompson.
MONARO: Hooking 7, Francis 8, Titlas 7, Sartolin 7, Walsh 7-Wilcox 8, Budini 7, Carbone 7-Giampolo 8, Brennan 7, Thannides 8. Coach: Josef Procsch.
Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Bryant (c), 5. Giampolo (fm), 4. English (c), 3. Francis (fm), 2. Sermanni (c), 1. Wilcox (fm).

SOUTHERN DIVISION

FOOTSCRAY JUST 1 (Stojilovic 15th) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Spink 14th, Cole 49m) at Schindler Reserve. Attendance: 3500 (estimate). Ratings by Peter Desira:

JUST: Turudja 6 — Curilvic 5, Jovic 5, Belic 7, Karic 7, Lujic 5 — Stojilovic 5 (Dondovic 54th 5), O'Donnell 8 (Janic 81st) Lazopoulos 5, Carroll 5, Tapal 5. Coach: Cedo Kirkovic.
MAKEDONIA: Wilson 6 — Miles 6, Dobson 8, Dunn 8, Opasinis 7 — Flavell 6, Illioski 8 — Spink 7, Smith 6, Cole 8, Lane 7. Coach: Bill Murray.
Best players for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Illioski (PM), 5. Cole (PM), 4. O'Donnell (FJ), 3. Dunn (PM), 2. Dobson (PM), 1. Karic (FJ).

BRISBANE CITY 0 BRISBANE LIONS 2 (Cairney, 75th, Anderson 79th) at Spencer Park. Crowd: 1885. Ratings by Ricky Rosso:

CITY: Wishart 7 — Fabrizio 5, Milovanovic 7, Wilkinson 7, Bromfield 8 — Junna 7 (Robinson 76th), Mengotti 6, Hamilton 6 — Glocker 6, Reis 7, Carey 7 (Schlavo 86th). Coach: Tony Lowndes.
LIONS: Evans 8 — Jackson 8, Vasquez 5, Hunter 7, Niven 7 — R. Stewart 7, J. Stewart 8, Ogden 7 — McDonagh 6, Cairney 7, Anderson 6. Coach: Gordon Arowsmith.
Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Evans (BL), 5. Jackson (BL), 4. Bromfield (BC), 3. J. Stewart (BL), 2. R. Stewart (BL), 1. Alan Reis (BC).

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 2 (Honeyman 48, Price 58) BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1 (Sweeney 78) at the Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 2300. Ratings by Allan Crisp:

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: A. Crook 9 — McGregor 8, Honeyman 9, Brown 7, Hiern 8 — Atsalas 8, Manou 8, Scott 8 (Stamatopoulos 69), Panagis 8 — Konstantopoulos 8 (Stefanopoulos 59), Price 8. Coach: Neil McGachey.
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS: Banovic 8 — Geremia 7, Brown 8, Drinocky 8, Lewis 8 — Campbell 7, Cullen 7, Miranda (in Wade 26th 7), Dowdie 8 — Sweeney 7, Zinni 7 (Palatides 73). Coach: John Margaritis.
Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Honeyman (West Ad), 5. A. Crook (West Ad), 4. Dowdie (Uwe), 3. Drinocky (Uwe), 2. Manou (West Ad), 1. Brown (Uwe).

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MELBOURNE CROATIA.....	1	0	0	3	0	2
BRISBANE LIONS.....	1	0	0	2	0	2
STH MELB HELLAS.....	1	0	0	3	2	2
PREST. MAKEDONIA.....	1	0	0	2	1	2
W. ADEL. HELLAS.....	1	0	0	2	1	2
H'berg-Alexander.....	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sun.-Geo. Cross.....	0	1	0	0	0	1
Green Gully.....	0	0	1	2	3	0
Footscray JUST.....	0	0	1	1	2	0
BU-Juventus.....	0	0	1	1	2	0
Brisbane City.....	0	0	1	0	2	0
Adel. City Juventus.....	0	0	1	0	3	0

NORTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
CANBERRA OLYMPIANS.....	1	0	0	3	0	2
APIA-LEICHHARDT.....	1	0	0	4	2	2
SYD. CITY HAKOAH.....	1	0	0	3	1	2
SYDNEY OLYMPIC.....	1	0	0	1	0	2
MARCONI.....	0	1	0	3	3	1
Sydney Croatia.....	0	1	0	3	3	1
St. Geo. Budapest.....	0	1	0	0	0	1
Penrith.....	0	1	0	0	0	1
Newc.-Rosebud.....	0	0	1	0	1	0
Wollongong.....	0	0	1	2	4	0
Blacktown.....	0	0	1	1	3	0
Inter-Monaro.....	0	0	1	0	3	0

Team of the Week

DENYS (Green Gully)	BENNETT (C. Geo Cross)	HANNAH (Melb Croatia)
JACKSON (Brisb. Lions)	HONEYMAN (WA-Hellas)	BRYANT (Can. Olympians)
JANKOVICS (Marconi)	SENKALSKI (Newc.-Rosebud)	COLE (Makedonia)
EGAN (SM-Hellas)	KOSMINA (SC-Hakoah)	

● Boral Bricks will provide \$1000 to the player judged best in Australia according to 6-5-4-3-2-1 votes cast by "Soccer Action" writers. In case of a tie there will be a countback with the player who has gained most 6-votes receiving \$1000 and the rest being divided between the others involved in the countback. Boral will provide \$1000 to the NSL top scorer, counting finals goals. The money will be split in case of a tie.

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NSL UNDER 21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD \$500 to the winner

Leaders' list:

5. Jackson (BL), A. Crook (WA), Cristaldo (BL Cr.), Colagiuri (APIA).
4. Bundalo (W)
3. Hristovski (W).



Adelaide City Juventus, from left Northcote, Santrac, Costanzo, McNally, Flounders, Villani, Vidmar. Front: Melta, Donnelly, Mullen, B. Nyskohus, Cecere, Maxwell. Picture by LES SHORROCK.



Ricky Rosso

Man of the match:
Wayne Evans
(Brisb Lions)



Three penalties missed!

Scorers: Cairney 75th, Anderson 79th.
Venue: Spencer Park.
Crowd: 1885.
Cautions: BC - Milovanovic (BC), Hunger (BL), R. Stewart (BL).
Referee: Bill Monteverde 8.

Three missed penalties capped an horrific start to the season for Queensland's two clubs, Brisbane City and Lions.

The performance, probably an NSL match record,

highlighted a poor performance from both teams and indicated a lot of work is ahead for the two sides if they hope to compete with Melbourne clubs this year.

The players who earned their first black mark of the season were Luciano Fabrizio and Billy Wilkinson (City) and Alan Niven (Lions).

Fabrizio, who was selected to take City's first kick

in the 16th minute after he had excelled in a penalty taking competition during training, was the worst of fender. His shot flew metres wide of the goal.

Wilkinson and Niven, possibly hesitant because of earlier misses, abandoned their power style and went for safety-first, but their well-placed shots were far too soft and saved by the respective keepers.

Following the gutsy 1-0 Cup win over Marconi, City started like a rocket and had Lions on the run. But it was a 16 minute tackle from behind by Roddy Vasquez on Peter Carey that brought the success-starved City supporters to their feet as referee Bill Monteverde pointed to the spot.

It was Mike Milovanovic who felled Jim McDonagh for Lions' turn at penalty-taking. Niven failed though.

When Vasquez brought down Carey again 11 minutes later, Billy Wilkinson, playing his 122nd match for the club, got the nod to take the kick, but he too patished his shot and Evans scooped it up.

Lions finally took the lead after a terrible piece of fumbling by Fabrizio. From a short goalkick he twisted and turned under pressure from McDonagh before falling over and leaving Joe Cairney to score.

Three minutes later from a long ball played out of defence Anderson and McDonagh caught the City defence flat and broke from the halfway, Anderson slammed it into the net.

Cumming is off the transfer list

**Melb. Croatia 3
Ad. Juventus 0**

SCORERS: Deankovic 54th, House 60th Antolovic 75th.
VENUE: Olympic Park No.2.
Crowd: about 1,500.
Cautions: Govic (MC).
Referee: Stuart Mellings 7.

Peace at Croatia! Tommy Cumming is off the transfer list and the Buffalo Gold Cup final seems a long, long way away. And once Tony Curcio, Steve Goevic, Aki Kotzamalichis and Josip Biskic all are back in action new coach Domagoj Kapetanovic, if ever he arrives, has enough quality and depth in his squad to get Croatia into the finals.

Imagine what will happen if Kapetanovic can talk starlet Robert Markovic into staying. That would give Croatia the option of playing new \$6,500 signing from Juventus, Gary Ward, along with Greg House, Markovic and either Tommy Cumming or Steve Goevic up front.

There's been a lot of talk in the Press recently about Preston Makedonia and perhaps Green Gully using four up front (I always thought that when you had possession and went forward a 4-2-2 formation takes on a 4-2-4 look anyway) and Croatia certainly has this opportunity too to trick us all into thinking that a new ultra-modern attacking system is being used.

There's still no definite news on the date of Kapetanovic's arrival (one Croatia fan told me that perhaps Kapetanovic had decided to walk to Australia).

Ward looked sharp enough early, but didn't contribute a lot towards the end of the game. Maybe the debilitating effect of the heat took its toll because he hadn't played a serious game for a few weeks.

Josip Biskic was out suspended but Croatia lost no drive down its right flank by pushing Drago Deankovic into a wide midfield berth on that side and Deankovic was the spring-board for countless Croatia attacks.

Victor Cristaldo had been used wide on the left in Croatia's midfield four throughout the Buffalo Gold Cup. He played in a central midfield role alongside Jim Campbell here and was superb. Campbell showed more than just a glimpse of his old self, so much so that when caretaker coach Miron Bleiburg took Campbell off with 10 minutes to go, the Croatia fans applauded the former Heidelberg star. And that only can spell trouble for Croatia's opponents. And a welcome change for Campbell.

And what of Adelaide Juventus?

It looked great on the ball in patches in the first half. In fact one tremendous interpassing movement involved at least a dozen passes and ended with Charlie Villani shooting over. But Juventus goes back, then forward, then back or square then forward again only to find too many opponents behind the ball where it counts. Forced into long range attempts, Juventus rarely troubled Croatia goalie Zeljko Govic.

With Croatia leading 3-0, Juventus created its clearest cut chance but after chugging



Craig Mackenzie

down a superb cross from Joe Mullen, Serge Melta spooned his shot over from dead in front and under no pressure. That says it all about Juve's display here.

Croatia opened the scoring in the 54th minute. Cumming's corner to the far post was headed into the bar by Shaun Parton and Deankovic thumped home the rebound.

Six minutes later, a stunning through ball from Cristaldo sent House clear. Willie McNally charged off his line

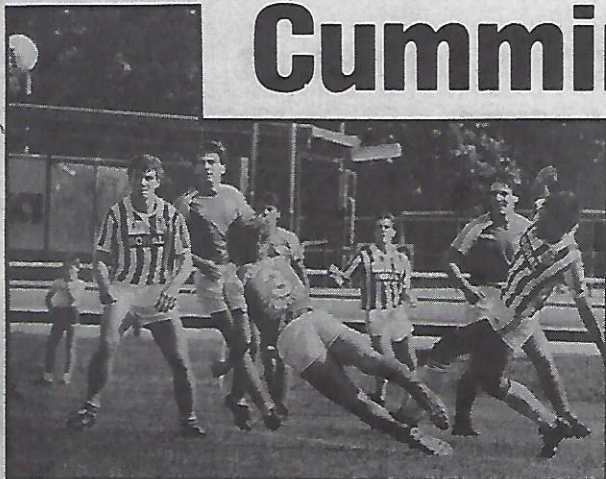
Man of the match:
DRAGO DEANKOVIC
(Melb. Croatia)

but House kept his head, slotting the ball wide of McNally and inside the far post.

The Cumming-Parton combination hit it off from another corner to set up Jozo Antolovic for the third goal in the 75th minute. Again, Cumming played his corner to the far post. Again, Parton was there, this time heading the ball back into the goalmouth where Antolovic's diving header from close range wrapped up this match.

It turned out to be an easy win for Croatia.

If only Juventus was a bit more direct.



Shaun Parton (No.3) of Croatia clears with a diving header. Others, from left: Adrian Santrac, Jim Campbell, Jozo Antolovic (rear), Joe Mullen, George Hannah, and Costanzo of Adelaide Juventus.

What happened to mighty Heidelberg?

**George Cross 0
Heidelberg 0**

Venue: Chaplin Reserve
Crowd: 2500
Yellow card: Patterson 90th.
Referee: Sam Zoumas 9.

On paper, this match was expected to be a mere formality, with in-form Heidelberg picking up two points from its less fancied opponent.

As it turned out however, George Cross performed much better than expected, and Heidelberg was unable to reproduce its Buffalo Cup form.

There was considerable doubt about the structure of the George Cross team, due to disputes with several players, including Gerry Bennett, Roger Bain, Chris Taylor and Bobby Toal. Last minute agreements were reached with all except Toal, and with the inclusion of new signings, Lou Kastner, Carl Gilder, Noel Mitten and Ivan Istuk, coach John Gardiner was able to field a team of some quality.

As Gardiner said before the match, this new-look George Cross team will take time to settle down, but already it looked better organised and disciplined than last season's bottom-of-the-league outfit.

Perhaps the presence of experienced goalkeeper Kastner made the biggest difference. In addition to a number of fine saves, his confident and calm attitude spread to his fellow defenders and as a consequence, the Heidelberg forwards, with the exception of hard-running Stewart Stevenson, could make little impression.

Steve Winn was well contained by Steve Richardson and Steve Tasios, very much down on the form displayed during the night competition, was



Ken Kontra

easy prey for John Campbell.

The other promising Heidelberg youngster, John Metaxas, also had a poor game, and his substitution by Scott Patterson late in the game, came as no surprise.

While George Cross was able to contain it, lacked cohesion and penetration in the forward line. Ossie Latif tried hard, and with his aggressive running created a few problems for the Heidelberg back-four. Gilder was consistently winning the ball against Joe Anier, particularly in the air, but lacked the necessary close support to be really effective. Mitten contributed little.

The Battle in Midfield was fairly even, with Neither side being able to gain control to the extent of turning the game in their favour. They say that matches are won or lost in the middle of the park, and with honors even in this department, the final result was a fair reflection of proceedings.

Here are some of the highlights!

- In the 10th minute, Istuk lost the ball and Stevenson ran through, but his shot found the side netting.

- In the 18th minute, Latif's powerful shot was charged down just inside the penalty area.

- In the 20th minute, Mike Valentine's corner was firmly headed down by Theo Selemidis but Kastner's brilliant reflex save kept the scoresheet clean.

- In the 32nd minute, Latif ran into the penalty

Man of the match:
LOU KASTNER
(Geo. Cross)

area following a through ball. Jeff Oliver uncharacteristically missed the ball, but the defence scrambled clear before Latif could turn and gain possession.

- Just before half time, Kastner was tested by Winn and a few minutes later by Metaxas, but the George Cross custodian saved well on both occasions.

- Just on the whistle, there were appeals for handball by Angele inside the penalty area, but referee Zoumas was not interested.

- Seven minutes into the second half, Steve Marley's intended cross curled in unexpectedly, and Kastner did well to tip over the bar at the far post.

- In the 62nd minute Heidelberg put the best move of the match together, the final pass releasing Stevenson on the left. He pulled the ball back, beating Kastner, but there was nobody in position to provide the finishing touch.

- Halfway through the 2nd half, Don McLaren and Jeff Faulkner tried shots from almost identical positions 25 metres from goal, missing the top corner of the goal by inches on both occasions.

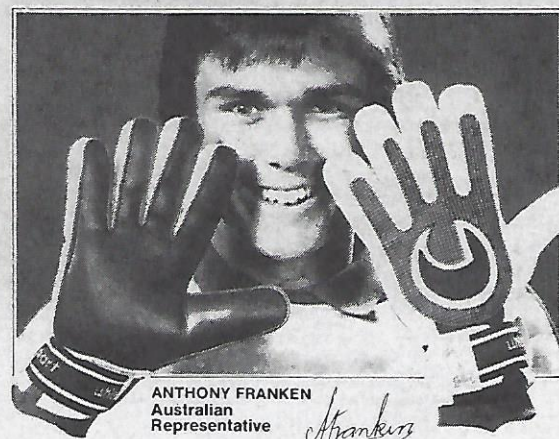
- In the closing minutes, shots by Istuk and two pedlivers by Latif test Oliver.

Heidelberg can, and no doubt, will play better than on this occasion, and for the long suffering George Cross supporters, there finally appears to be light at the end of the tunnel.

Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey believes he still needs more depth in the squad.



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Peter Desira

Man of the match:
ZORAN ILIOSKI
(Makedonia)

Foots JUST 1 Makedonia 2

Scores: Spink 14th, Stojilovic 15th, Cole 49th
Venue: Schindler Reserve
Referee: Bambridge 7
Cautions: Jovic, Bolic (FJ), Dunn (PM)

Preston Makedonia coach Billy Murray, even in his early days in the NSL, is finding it hard to stomach the defensive tactics adopted against his naturally attacking side.

Murray, normally too nice a guy to point the finger at anybody, was still too agitated to contain himself after the dust had settled 20 minutes after this fiery encounter.

"Teams that defend with five and six players at home are killing the game. I found it astonishing that it could happen in a (Buffalo) Cup semi-final (against Heidelberg) but for Footscray to do it here leaves me really cold."

"We will simply drive people away from the game when teams are content to sit back and defend. Footscray has good strikers in (Bill) Lazopoulos and (Ernie) Iapali. Why couldn't they have a go?"

"I've already reached the stage where I'm forcing my players not to take risks going forward all the time because it leaves us prone to counter attacks, was the way Murray put it."

From Makedonia's point of view, with all its strength and attacking power, Murray is entitled to think along those lines.

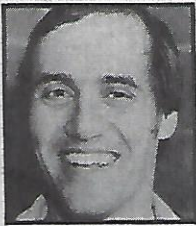
But spare a thought for poor old Cedo Cirkovic, who has lost a total of 10 players from last year's team: Tansey, Taylor, Paton, Tutill, Hazabent, Boland, McDowell, Bekiaris, Lacmanovic, and Caban — and with no money to spend simply has to patch together what on paper looks a poor side.

What's more, he has been keeping his fingers crossed all week because of a lower back injury to Lazopoulos who did not train and did not decide to play until Sunday morning.

"Look, everybody at the club expects it to be hard and we are not looking for miracles like leading the table, but we won't do as bad as everyone is predicting."

"I thought we deserved a draw today and with a bit of luck we could have had that — but really I just felt sorry for the players having to play in the hot conditions," Cirkovic said, referring to the energy sapping 33 degree tempera-

Let's all attack: Murray



Bill Murray

tures that hit Melbourne over the weekend.

The two coaches blamed all the goals on defensive errors. "My defenders cost us the two goals but I don't blame goalkeeper Mark Turudia for either. I was pleased with his performance," Cirkovic said. Murray on the other hand claimed Makedonia's goals as "peaches", then added that "the soft goal against us was down to a misunderstanding between Robbie Dunn and Richard Wilkinson. They will just have to sort it out at the back," he said.

The first two goals came within a minute of each other early in the game.

Gary Cole deserves credit for the one that broke the deadlock for Makedonia in the 14th minute.

The striker delayed his low cutback, waiting for support, and when it did come Steve Smith dummied over the ball, leaving it for Warren Spink, better placed at the far post, to sidefoot home.

But the lead proved short-lived with Footscray equalising straight from the restart. Ernie Iapali centred into the box and Milan Stojilovic drilled in between Dunn and Wilson to toe-poke the ball home.

Joe Carroll, making his return to the TJSI side after resolving his differences, almost grabbed the lead eight minutes from the end of the first half.

Stojilovic pushed a through ball to him and the striker's shot beat Wilson but rebounded off the underside of the bar back into play for a hurried Makedonia clearance despite claims that the ball had bounced over the goal-line.

Cirkovic admitted it was not a goal but added "we had a goal just like that given against us in the match against South Melbourne last year."

The goal that settled the match came four minutes into the second half.

Cirkovic had assigned Vlatko Belic to look after Gary Cole but Belic was nowhere in sight as Cole rose unchallenged to meet Gordon Flavell's cross from the right to head past Turudia from inside the 18 yard box.

The goal brought to an end Cole's goal famine in the League and brought his overall tally to 32 (league) goals in nine seasons.

He could have added a second goal later, winning the ball near the touchline then cutting in to fire a shot past Turudia which scraped the wrong side of the far post.

Makedonia dominated after regaining the lead and only a top save from Turudia and a goal-line clearance from Zivkovic Lujic prevented an increase in the score.

Turudia must have been unsighted but somehow parried a pldriver from Zoran Ilioski who met a Sean Lane freekick on the volley from outside the box in the 67th minute.

Another Lane freekick from the left four minutes later found Dunn at the far post and his header eluded Turudia but Lujic was well placed to clear off the line.

JUST expect to be bolstered by the return of Kyri Kyriakoules who arrives back in Melbourne from Apollo Bay and was to have talks with the club yesterday (Tuesday).

Makedonia has selection worries of a different kind, with George McMillan shaking off his hamstring injury and pushing for re-inclusion in the side.

Stojilovic pushed a through ball to him and the striker's shot beat Wilson but rebounded off the underside of the bar back into play for a hurried Makedonia clearance despite claims that the ball had bounced over the goal-line.

Cirkovic admitted it was not a goal but added "we had a goal just like that given against us in the match against South Melbourne last year."

The goal that settled the match came four minutes into the second half.

Cirkovic had assigned Vlatko Belic to look after Gary Cole but Belic was nowhere in sight as Cole rose unchallenged to meet Gordon Flavell's cross from the right to head past Turudia from inside the 18 yard box.

The goal brought to an end Cole's goal famine in the League and brought his overall tally to 32 (league) goals in nine seasons.

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SENKALSKI SIZZLES!

N. Rosebud 0 Olympic 1

Venue: Adamstown Oval
Score: Soper 85th
Referee: Gary Power 7
Cautions: McClelland (NRU)

What a magnificent start to the 1985 season. This game had everything!

Played under lights on a perfect autumn evening the game was full of great performances, goalmouth thrills, great goalkeeping, played at a cracking pace with no quarter asked or given.

But one performance that stood out was that of Newcastle captain Joe Senkalski, who served notice to Frank Arok that he still is the most skilful midfielder in the league.

Dino Milosevic had the crowd on its feet when he had the ball in the net but the goal was disallowed — the ball having crossed the byline before Senkalski cut it back to Milosevic.

Newcastle was unlucky not to have been awarded a penalty before half time when Malcolm McClelland after having rounding Meier, appeared to have been tripped by the keeper but referee Gary Power waved play on, much to the displeasure of the crowd.

The second half continued in the same fashion with Newcastle looking likely to take the points.

The infusion of Bobby Naumov, who replaced Brett Fawkes on the left of midfield and the raids down the left by David Jones, were starting to find gaps in the Olympic defence.

In one of these raids, a Jones cross was headed on by McClelland to an unmarked Milosevic but his shot hit the post.

Olympic returned the compliment when Marshall Soper headed a Katholos cross against the bar.

The winning goal came five minutes from the end when Kalantzis broke away on the left and his low cross was steered home at the far post by Soper.

It's a pity that there had to be a loser in a game like this. Newcastle certainly deserved at least a share of the points.

Its defence was magnificent with Michael Boagard outstanding and Mark Jones doing a good job on Soper until Soper moved into the centre when Theodorakopoulos was replaced.

Olympic, with Kalantzis, Soper, Katholos, Phillips and Raskopoulos has got a wealth of talent. Each player is a potential match-winner and each can score a goal and I can see them giving a lot of defences a lot of headaches.

Coach Manfred Schaefer has at his disposal some exciting talent that will keep the turnstiles clicking whenever they



Joe Lanzoni

The game was only a minute old when Clint Gosling was brought into action when he flung himself to his right to stop a Chris Kalantzis drive.

Gary Meier at the other end was not to be outdone and he showed remarkable agility for a tall man to get down to a Bernard Kerby drive that looked like opening the scoring.

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Andrew Zinni leaps to head goalward for Juventus against West Adelaide Hellas at Hindmarsh Stadium. Man of the match Graham Honeyman (No. 5) of Hellas waits to intercept, in front of Joe Sweeney (right). Picture by FRANK HOBBS.

Honeyman scores in 200th NSL match

WA-Hellas 2 BU-Juventus 1

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium
Crowd: 2300
Referee: Donald Campbell 9

Cautions: A. Crook, Manou, Panagis, Drinocky, Campbell, Miranda.

Scores: Honeyman 48th, Price 56th, Sweeney 78th.

Veteran Graham Honeyman crowned his 200th NSL appearance with a sterling display which included Westad's first goal.

Honeyman received unexpected support from rookie Alistair Crook who was rushed into the Hellas line-up when Martyn Crook suffered a finger injury while playing cricket the previous day.

Hellas coach Neil McGachey tried unsuccessfully to contact his second string goalkeeper Gary Sproul before young Alistair was called up for only his second NSL game.

Sproul, after not being selected on Thursday night, was out of town and unable to be reached.

But, McGachey need not have worried, for 21-year-old Alistair Crook, no relation to Martyn Crook, played a blinder.

Hellas also was brilliantly served by NSL debut players, Gary Price and Alan Scott.

That duo and George Konstantopoulos must be the smallest strike force in the NSL, but they finished on top of the tall Juventus defence.

Hellas had the best of the first half and was unlucky not to have gone in at half time with two goal leads.

The inaccuracies were rectified three minutes after the resumption when Honeyman headed a floated corner against a Juventus defender and collected the rebound to smash the ball past Yakkia Banovic.

It was 2-0 10 minutes later when Price, a prolific scorer with Adelaide Croatia in the Rotmans League, opened his NSL account.

Banovic dived despairingly as Price curled his shot inside the near post after Konstantopoulos and Scott had created the opening.

Joe looked beaten, but it mounted a late rally that threatened to swamp Hellas, at least to the extent of salvaging a point.

Paul Wade, formerly of Green Gully, made the goal that put Juve back in contention when he wriggled past Ian McGregor to shove a short pass into Joe Sweeney's path.

The goal lifted Juve, but Crook proved his worth with brave saves to deny Brian Brown and Robert Cullen.

Juve coach John Margaritis was a picture of dejection after the game as he grizzled about having to play in such oppressive conditions.

Meanwhile, new Hellas coach Neil McGachey savored his first taste of success in his demanding role.

"The lads played well, but it's no wonder they wilted in the final stages," McGachey said.

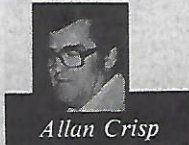
"It's asking a lot to play two games in two days. They have the right idea in Melbourne. There they get their Buffalo Cup out of the way before the NSL starts, while we have the NSL running alongside our Ampol Cup competition."

"Now we have to bounce back and face Adelaide City in the Ampol final."

For McGachey, Honeyman and young Alistair Crook, it was a match to remember.

For former West Adelaide coach Margaritis and former Adelaide Croatia and Whylla Croatia goalkeeper, Banovic it was a sad homecoming.

But Banovic did not contribute to Juve's post-match lamentations. Instead he stayed in SA to visit his family in his old home town, Whylla.



Allan Crisp

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Agony from start to finish



Alex Vesic

Man of the match:
MIKE GIBSON
(Penrith)

Penrith 0 St George 0

At Cook Park.
Crowd: 338.
Referee: Jim Reeves 8.
Cautions: McIntosh, Skaen.

A man suffered a stroke during the second half but an ambulance was at the ground within minutes to aid the unfortunate spectator. There was no such aid, however, for some 400 who saw and under-strength Penrith hold out against an out-of-touch St George in one of the poorest matches to date.

For most of the 90 minutes it was agony — void of creativity, a dull struggle, with few shots at goal.

Saints were definitely the better of the two sides. With so much talent at its disposal, St George battled hard during the opening period to get the upper hand, then dominated the second half, but despite its territorial advantage, little else was shown by the likes of Cotton, Petkovski, Marton or Slater.

In midfield Stone, J. O'Shea and Mark Barton were too fast and too strong for Hebb, Carbone and Toohy but they simply didn't know what to do with all the possession they had. Barton failed to realise that there were other St George players on the park, Stone was non-creative and John O'Shea, despite some hard work, produced only one shot at goal.

David McIntosh blunted Roy Cotton's attempts, Peter Petkovski and Robbie Slater couldn't find their way past Cross, Brogan and Ainsworth, and when they did there was the big frame of Michael Gibson who stopped the rest.

Gibson made vital saves that earned him the "man of the match" award. He was at the feet of Barton to block a shot in the 37th, then faced Petkovski to do the same seconds later. Only a minute later a "left-footer" by John O'Shea was again brilliantly saved by Gibson.

Rene-Licata showed refreshing enthusiasm in his first game for Penrith and caused some five occasions, while Hunter was out of touch.

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Better still with Kay

SC-Hakoah 3 Blacktown 1

Venue: Wentworth Park
Crowd: 1200
Referee: Lorenz 8

Cautions: Cant (Hakoah).

IT took just 30 minutes of sparkling football for Hakoah to start its 1985 NSL campaign on a winning note, while the rest of the match served as warning to master coach Eddie Thomson, that there is still room for improvement.

On the quarter hour a perfectly-placed corner by Joe Watson found the deadly accurate John Kosmina about four metres out and he rarely misses from that range, as he didn't on this occasion.

Just eight minutes later Kosmina's predecessor as national team captain, Murray Barnes, watched eagerly as a shot by his speedy winger Grant Lee rebounded from the pack, before slamming the ball high into the back of the Blacktown net for Hakoah's second goal.

In a display of early-season form, Hakoah eased the pace and suddenly the visitors were back in the game. Phil O'Connor sold a dummy which allowed Steve Knight to unleash a spectacular 30-metre shot against which Todd Clarke was helpless and the margin was narrowed to one goal.

Kay was only one of two notable absences in the Hakoah lineup, recuperating from a pulled hamstring muscle suffered in training. The other non-starter was Succero goalie Tony Pezzano, who hasn't signed a contract yet.

Thomson's rival Casey De Bruin now in the last year of



Peter Scott

likely to win, it wasn't in the bag until just five minutes from the end. Frank Farina was off once again on a fine of his many raids down the right wing, shipping a perfect ball into the middle, only to see Graeme Fletcher miskick in his eagerness to score. Not to worry, though, as Kosmina who else? — was there in an instant to calmly hit the ball into the net to make it 3-1.

As Hakoah coach Thomson said, his boys' performance was more notable for dedication and eagerness than for the level of skill. "After 30 minutes the standard declined, with problems apparent in the linkage between defence, midfield and attack. We also badly missed Paul Kay, who was outstanding last week against St George," he said.

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LOU DENYS IN BRILLIANT TOUCH ... But Gully can't stop Egan



SM-Hellas goalkeeper Peter Laumets soars above, from left: David Smallman, Angie Postecoglou, Bobby Russell, Steve Blair (obscured), Claude Lucchesi and Kevin Lloyd.

Man of the match:
CHARLIE EGAN
(SM-Hellas)

**SM Hellas 3
G.Gully 2**

Scorers: 1-0 Egan 19th, 1-1 Lewis 38th, 1-2 Lewis 59th, 2-2 Egan 63rd, 3-2 Brown penalty 85th.
Venue: Middle Park.
Crowd: about 3000.
Cautions: Egan (SM), Murray (CG), Vassallo (GG).
Referee: Jim Fearn 9.

Everything was right for a Green Gully victory. Hellas had won only once in six previous matches whereas Green Gully was unbeaten over the same period. What's more, Green Gully striker Paul Lewis had been in devastating form, scoring nine goals over those six games.

But Green Gully was foiled by little Charlie Egan. Despite the 30-plus heat and the resolute marking of Steve McLelland, Egan used all his speed, and bounce energy to carve up the Green Gully defence, score two goals and force a penalty from which Doug Brown scored the winner five minutes from the end.

Egan was full of praise after the game for Green Gully goalkeeper Lou Denys. "He was brilliant," Egan said. "He was probably the most underrated goalkeeper in Australia."

Green Gully sweeper Robert Krajacic, the former Heidelberg player standing in for Stuart Cannell who was out suspended, had no argument with the penalty awarded against him. "I raised my arm and my leg as the ball came towards me from Egan's header and although it wasn't intentional, my arm did make contact with the ball," he said.

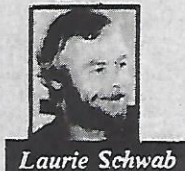
Hellas was much improved in the middle, although Oscar Crino is yet to strike his best form after that long lay-off due to injury. It won't be long though, before he reaches the level of his henchmen Gary McDowell, Carl Halford and Ken Murphy.

Halford was moved back into the middle, with McDowell this time playing wide on the right. Although it's an unaccustomed position for him, he did well there, while Halford was meticulously neat in whatever he did.

The only Green Gully midfielder able to match them was David Smallman. The others spent most of their time worrying about their opponents, without contributing anything going forward. In fact, strikers Claude Lucchesi and Paul Lewis had virtually no support at all.

Hellas came into this match as the Australian champion, having beaten Sydney Olympic 2-1 in both legs of the national final last year, while Green Gully had finished only ninth in the Southern Division in its first NSL season. Green Gully previously had won three Victorian State League championships, two Ducky Cups, three Ampol Cups and one State League Cup in a glorious five-year period.

Hellas fielded a team unchanged since its 0-1 loss to Melbourne in the National Cup.



Laurie Schwab

whereas Green Gully made three changes, bringing in McLelland, Willie Vassallo and Krajacic for Andrew Young (virus) Cannell (suspended) and Andy McKenna.

Green Gully's aim was to counter Hellas's strengths. Jim Murray marked Brown, McLelland took on Egan, and Krajacic played as sweeper. In the middle, Vassallo tried unsuccessfully to tag Murphy and Jim Williams similarly had little effect on McDowell.

Denys made two brilliant saves in the first 14 minutes, stopped a shot from Brown one-handed, and fisting away a powerful drive from Egan.

But when McDowell flicked the ball on with his head in the 19th minute, Denys was helpless against Egan who got to the ball in front of him, turned and angled a shot off the far post, into the net for the first goal.

Ken Smart probably wasted a scoring chance for Green Gully in the 26th minute, when he ran himself into trouble through the middle, whereas he should have slipped a pass to unmarked Lucchesi on his right.

And when Smallman headed the ball down to Lewis — courtesy of a deflection off Halford — the result was that shot which crashed against the crossbar.

Denys pounced again to turn a low angled shot from Crino for a corner, before Lewis equalised in the 38th minute. Kevin Lloyd's powerful shot, blocked, rebounded to Lucchesi and Lucchesi squared it to the far post for Lewis, unmarked, to tap it in.

McLelland foiled Egan who was running onto a great diagonal forward pass from Murphy in the 43rd minute, and as the first half drew to a close, Denys reacted brilliantly once more by saving Halford's powerful drive from outside the area.

Two minutes after the break, Denys made an uncanonically save to prevent Steve Blair's header from going in just under the bar. Having withstood all that pressure, Green Gully replied in the best possible way — with a goal. From a corner by Williams, Smallman headed the ball down and Lewis scored with a header just inside the post.

Green Gully's 2-1 lead lasted only four minutes, however. Brown slipped the ball wide to Halford, he angled the ball across goal and Egan, at the far side, reached it a split second ahead of Denys to make the score 2-2.

Egan continued to terrorise the Green Gully defence, chasing the ball to the byline in the 76th minute, while Green Gully players appealed in vain for offside, and crossing it back for unmarked Murphy who, however, missed.

Successive headers by McDowell and Murphy sent the ball into the goal where it was handled on the line by Krajacic with five minutes to go. Doug Brown, who had done little else, scored from the penalty to give Hellas its victory.

Tom English all class!



Peter Windsor

**Inter Monaro 0
Canberra 3**

Scorers: English, Sermanni, Perinovic.
Venue: Seiffert Oval.
Cautions: Burke, Brennan.
Referee: Tim Davies 8.

A dream debut by English import Tommy English paved the way for a deserved, but hard-fought 3-0 Canberra victory over Monaro.

It was a thrilling inaugural NSL debut for Canberra and Queanbeyan soccer fans.

English, just 23, and still overcoming jetlag and the climate after arriving only 72 hours before the game, scored once — and laid on the game's final goal just four minutes before the end.

English played 66 times for Coventry between 1981 and 1984 and scored 17 goals. He then played 44 times for Leicester.

The difference between the two sides? Simply Canberra's greater experience in NSL soccer and Monaro's continuing team-building efforts.

"Full marks to Monaro for fighting all the way," said Canberra's coach Roy Thompson. "They never gave up."

But once they allowed us to settle there could be only one result."

That summed it up perfectly. In fact it was Monaro which looked the classier side in the first 15 minutes. Up front it was particularly determined and front-runner Baz Giampaolo was in superb form.

Giampaolo was easily Monaro's best. A side-footed pass from Giampaolo after just eight minutes deserved better — although Tony Brennan's first-time ground shot went only a foot or so wide of the post.

Canberra's defence was taking time to settle and on the left flank Jones was being turned too easily by Chris Thammides and John Mihailides couldn't contain the brilliant Giampaolo.

In the 32nd minute it was again Monaro when Brennan beat Jones and tried a hard shot, which was well-taken by Canberra's goalkeeper, Tony Franken.

Then English showed the best of his English First Division experience. Terry Byrne found him with a probing long ball and away went English on the left flank. He was squared in between two defenders and goalkeeper Hocking was advancing rapidly. English, however, had seen the gap and blasted his shot past Hocking's fingers into the far corner. It was sheer class.



Man of the Match:
STEVE BRYANT
(Canberra)

— and brought deserved applause from all sections of the crowd.

By the goal that really sealed the game and swung play very much Canberra's way came just five minutes after the re-start.

Canberra had won a free kick just outside the penalty area. Sydney referee, Tim Davies, who had an excellent game, whistled quickly and with Monaro still marshalling its wall, Sermanni's quickly taken free kick found the net. Hocking had positioned himself on the near post but with the wall incomplete, Sermanni was able to slot the ball into the wide open spaces of the far corner.

From then on Canberra was able to win most of the balls that counted.

Yet full marks to Monaro. It continued to fight and with perhaps a little more luck could have opened its NSL account.

Just two minutes after Sermanni's goal, Giampaolo out-jumped Franken and forced the young goalkeeper to drop the ball. Giampaolo's boot was searching for the bouncing ball when full back Jim Harkins cleared only a metre from the goal-line.

In the 67th minute midfielder Billy Wilcox, whose work-rate was impressive, also had a chance but his 20-metre shot flashed just wide of the mark.

With just four minutes left Steve Bryant sent English away with a long ball. English, on the left flank, was being closed down but he kept his cool and floated over a superb cross. It cut out Hocking and picked out Perinovic beautifully with Perinovic placing his header into the roof of the net.

JUNIOR BEST

• Full back Junior, now playing for Torino in Italy, is Brazil's 1984 Footballer of the Year.

• Luis Del Sol, a member of Real Madrid's famed 1980 European champions' Cup winning side, who later went on to serve Juventus and AS Roma in Italy, has died following a heart attack. He was 49.

• The Belgian federation has announced that all players suspended in the bribery scandal involving Standard Liege and Waterschei will never again be considered for national team duty.

6400 treated to six-goal thriller

**Syd. Croatia 3
Marconi 3**

Scorers: Croatia: Arnold 15th & 30th, Rezo 90th; Marconi: Caldaran 33rd, Jankovics 69th & 82nd.
**At King Tomislav Park
Crowd:** 6452.

Cautions: Caldaran (M), Mason (M), Henderson (M), A. Kovacic (C).
Referee: P. Rampley 6.

Colorful pre-match entertainment plus a visit from the Federal Minister for Sport and Tourism, John Brown set the stage for Croatia's first home game of the 1985 season.

Most of the first half belonged to Croatia.

In the 13th and 21st minutes Jimmy Patikas, with pace to burn, carved through the bewildered Marconi defence only to wildly blast his shots into the crowd.

Croatia's quick breaks worried the Marconi defenders who seemed slow to react and were easily beaten on the flanks.

On the quarter hour Croatia's winger Zeljko Jurin intercepted a poor pass near the touch line in Marconi's half and sped goalward hotly pursued by fullback Paul Carter. The defender's challenge on the winger in the penalty area brought them both tumbling down and referee Peter Rampley awarded a spotkick.

Keeper Bruce James brilliantly parried Marjan Kovacic's drive but was helpless to stop Graham Arnold from putting away the rebound.

Croatia continued to keep control by effectively



Mick Mikolajczyk

playing the offside trap and utilised long balls to Patikas, Jurin and Saver to get behind the Marconi defence.

Although Marconi coach Les Scheinflug made a tactical change in the 29th minute by bringing on Geoff Gunning to mark Jimmy Patikas, Croatia went further ahead a minute later. Wally Saver cleverly eluded his marker Joe Rizzotto, found Graham Arnold unmarked and the big striker made no mistake from eight metres.

Just when the home side was beginning to look confident Marconi hit back with a simple goal from a set piece after 33 minutes.

Peter Treddinnick's free-kick was flicked on by diving David Lowe to Steve Caldaran who belted the ball in from point blank range.

Five minutes before the break Croatia should have been awarded another penalty through a bizarre refereeing decision.

As referee Rampley was about to caution stopper Steve Caldaran, Croatia quickly took the free kick and caught the Marconi defence flat-footed as they waited for the "Booking".



Man of the match:
MARK JANKOVICS
(Marconi)

Amazingly play was allowed to go on. Jurin was flattened in the area and the referee catching up with the play awarded a goal kick after overruling his linesman's signal.

By the 69th minute Marconi was on level terms. Lowe broke the offside trap and set off towards the goal. Mark Jankovics made good ground in support, took the inside pass and expertly rounded keeper Gary Woodhouse to slot the ball in.

Marconi's dominance in the middle grew and with Jankovics foraging tirelessly up front, they threatened to take the lead. Fittingly then, it was Jankovics in the 82nd minute who appeared out of nowhere to plant a loose ball wide of the despairing keeper's outstretched fingers.

It was hard to imagine that Croatia was going to lose this match yet it surely wobbled a dramatic replacement for the injured had Rod Brown and David Lowe managed to convert two great chances with only minutes remaining.

As it was, Croatia deservedly wobbled a dramatic equalizer in stoppage time through substitute Dave Rezzo who slammed in a loose ball in the goalmouth scrimmage.

APIA A CHOO-CHOO STOPPER?

**APIA 4
Wollongong 2**

Scorers: Colaguri 2 min, 14 min, Willis 55 min (O.G.), Genovese 89 min for APIA; Bundulo 56 min, Giannone 73 min for Wollongong.
Referee: K. Small.
Crowd: About 850.
Cautions: De Goglie (APIA), Hristovski (Wongong).

Six goals in 90 minutes sounds like a pleasing afternoon of soccer and, in many ways, this match did provide some entertainment. However, the standard was poor throughout, proving once again that we simply don't have enough quality players for 24 NSL teams.

APIA jumped into the lead in the second minute when young Vince Colaguri, a St George reject, nipped into pick

up a loose ball and slip it into the corner.

Twelve minutes later it was again Colaguri who stole the show. He reached a long ball, beat his defender and then ever so delicately placed a left-foot shot just inside the far post.

When APIA went three-up in the 55th minute the match threatened to turn into a slaughter. Young Genovese, a replacement for the injured Colaguri, fastened onto a throughball, zoomed off on the right and his goalmouth cross was elegantly swept home, for a classic own goal, by Peter Willis.

But then APIA began to tire. Several of their players looked totally unfit, none more so than Tony Morsello for whom the kindest description one could find would be 'cuddly'.

In the 56th minute Bundulo made 3-1 from a few metres and in the 73rd minute Bundulo's cross was headed home



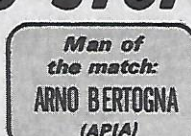
Andrew Dettre

by the little winger, Giannone, outclimbing the hesitating and slumbering Brown. Just when Wollongong appeared on the verge of snatching a draw, a sudden counter-raid put paid to the provincial's chances.

Genovese raced after a long clearance, drew the goalie and, from some 35 metres, slipped the ball past him.

Right on fulltime Caban could have made it an even more impressive 5-2 but blasted an easy shot well over the bar.

APIA deserved their win but should not draw too many optimistic conclusions from it.



Man of the match:
ARNO BERTOOGNA
(APIA)

True, in youngsters Spina, Colaguri, but especially Genovese, they do have promising talent at their disposal.

But they also have some glaring weaknesses especially in the defence.

Arno Bertogna was a success in midfield — but badly missed from the rear-guard where the Mariani-Rowden tandem appeared slow and sluggish on the hot afternoon.

This young 'Gong is probably weaker than several NSW State League teams where, by rights, they should be playing, if we didn't have a truly Mickey Mouse relegation system.

Hristovski, Godzik, Bundulo and occasionally Giannone showed glimpses of promise — but not enough to indicate their likeable coach, former all-time great 'Noddy' Alston will have a pleasant, easy 1985 season.

Last but not least, a mention of APIA's 'historic' return to their old lair at Lambert Park.

Some impressive rebuilding program is going on at the ground; within a few weeks, spectator facilities will be civilised.

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Here comes flying Frank Farina

By PETER SCOTT

Flying Soccerroo Frank Farina is set to become even better and faster than he was last year.

This is the sobering message the brilliant 20-year-old prospect has for distraught defenders around the National Soccer League — and World Cup opponents as far away as Auckland, Glasgow, Tel Aviv and Madrid.

With his eyes firmly set on gaining a permanent spot in Frank Arok's national team, Farina refuses to be the slightest bit defensive about joining Sydney City Hakoah, however much sections of the soccer community may have disliked the move.

"I moved from Canberra so that I could improve and for that Sydney is the place to be," he said, adding that once he decided on leaving the national capital, Sydney City Hakoah was "the only team for me".

"I shifted so that I could go up, not sideways or down a step."

Farina explained that his new, two-year contract with Hakoah involves a clause similar to the one which restricted Canberra to demanding a transfer fee no greater than \$8000, making him surely the biggest bargain in soccer for years. However, he coyly confides that the maximum amount is somewhat higher than that which Hakoah had to fork out. Oh well, inflation and all that.

Now in full training, having returned from an off-season stint with English Second Division Portsmouth, Farina is bubbling over with enthusiasm about his new club.

"It is a marvellous team, with a great squad of players providing intense competition for every spot on match days. No one is assured of a place, which is the only way to improve and maintain motivation."

"At Hakoah as a striker I receive brilliant support on the field — the best I have ever seen in Australian soccer — while off the pitch there is an amazing club spirit."



Frank Farina surges past an opponent — something we may see a lot more of this season.

Coach Eddie Thomson, the shrewd Scotsman who has led the boys in blue and white to an unparalleled string of successes in recent years also gets his share of praise. "Training sessions are relaxed, enjoyable affairs, as they never are repetitious."

Perhaps it was this obvious respect which led Farina to get Thomson on the telephone at the end of last season. "I knew that Hakoah had a good



Claude Lucchesi



John Lucchesi

Goals galore for Lucchesi, Lewis?

Claude Lucchesi joined Green Gully after unsuccessfully negotiating with Juventus, Footscray J.U.S.T. and Fawkner.

Lucchesi, 28, is the first of Makedonia's transfer-listed players to find a new club. The others are Zarko Odzakovic, George Campbell and Ljube Petrovski.

He scored 31 NSL league and Cup goals in his six seasons with Makedonia.

At Green Gully, he links up in attack with Paul Lewis, one of the most deadly strikers in Australia.

"We'll score a heap of goals between us," Lucchesi said.

First, however, he intends to work hard on getting fit, as he hasn't played a match this year, and has been training only with Makedonia's youth squad.

Lucchesi started with the Waverley City juniors, and played one year of senior soccer before going to Juventus. He and his older brother John were team mates at both clubs, but John went on to play for Slavia, Morwell Falcons, and now Nunawading United.

While with Juventus, Claude was chosen in the Victorian State squad for a match against Bologna, without actually getting a run, and last year was included in Frank

Arok's preliminary national squad, before it was reduced in numbers.

Lucchesi left Juventus in 1979 because he intended to get into the National League.

"It was hard to break into at the start, because NSL clubs were signing imports and national squad members, rather than players from the State League, so I figured if I joined a progressive club like Makedonia, it probably would be promoted to the NSL eventually, and me along with it."

He didn't think Juventus would make it.

"There was too much instability at Juventus, and as a result the club lost some top-class youngsters like the Sabidussi brothers, Oscar Crino, Eddie Krncevic and Branko Culina, as well as established stars like Billy Vojtek and Mick Watkins."

"It's changed now, however. The club has some top-flight businessmen in its administration and they've also recruited well. Juventus will do well this year, which is great for the Italian community."

— LAURIE SCHWAB

the job for him. I want to play in a World Cup Final tournament for Australia."

As for looking beyond the Cup campaign, "I want to try playing overseas again."

"Portsmouth is an excellent club, with good support, plenty of financial backing and a full time career in English football is an attractive proposition."

"I feel I have the skills and dedication to enable me to make it over there," Farina maintains.

Those skills will be seen alongside Soccerroo skipper John Kosmina this year, in what may become soccer's most deadly duo.

"There isn't another player who does as much for Australian soccer as 'Kossie'. He receives a lot of stick from the crowds, but it only proves that he is our opponents' main worry and he does score an awful lot of goals."

Away from soccer, Farina has ambitions of gatecrashing the public relations world, but, in the meantime, he is enjoying life sharing a flat with team mate Jean Paul de Marigny at Bondi.

"It is excellent, we live right on the beach and it sure is a change from Canberra, where it was a struggle even to find the local pool."

And, just in case fans of this fleet-footed Soccerroo are interested in details of his personal life and preferences, Farina swims at Bondi.

You know, the end of the beach where the ladies walk very little, or even less. No wonder Canberra couldn't keep him.

Contini wrangle still on

Alan Contini's long wrangle with Sunshine-George Cross continued when a NSL appeals tribunal lowered his transfer fee from \$2000 to \$1500 — but he's still waiting for money the club owes him.

Goalkeeper Contini first went to the tribunal late last year over what he claimed was an illegal suspension by the club.

As a result, the tribunal ruled the club was to pay him \$1874 in wages owed to him during the period of suspension.

In a submission to the tribunal, Contini said he had been selected to play in the senior team on August 12, 1984, but on the morning of that day, he was asked to play after all. Before going onto the field, he requested a re-assurance that he would be paid the basic wage until the end of the season. The submission said he was given the assurance in the presence of two witnesses and played on that day.

Yet on August 15, the club suspended the player, following claims by the then president, Ali Zahra, that Contini's request for the wage assurance had been "blackmail."

The suspension was lifted on October 14.

Contini's claim that his suspension was neither authorised nor based on reasonable grounds, was upheld by the tribunal.

He said this week that he felt the treatment by the club was unfair as he had given loyal service to the club for 15 years. He played his first State League game in 1976.

Footscray J.U.S.T. has expressed interest in signing Contini.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

WOMEN

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Goalkeepers are different. Really different. Some say they're mad.

They're the butt of lots of jokes, they can play hero and villain in the one game, they wear a different colored strip to the rest of the team, funny gloves and sometimes, strange looking caps. They can do crazy things like running out of their penalty area and dribbling past opponents.

Maybe they are mad.

"I wouldn't go as far as that. Just say that there's a questionable quality there," said South Melbourne Hellas goalie Peter Laumets.

"There's no way that a goalkeeper can be a straight man. Take one of your training nights for example. It's pouring down, there's a big puddle in front of you and 15 guys with a ball each are taking great pleasure in placing their shots so that you land right in the middle of the puddle. You're really going for it, hammer and tongs, sweating hard and getting filthy while the 15 guys are in stitches watching you."

Maybe Laumets would have gone on the Soccerroo world tour late last year if not for a shoulder injury suffered in training for the World Series games. Maybe. He wonders about that too.

"Getting that injury was just like being dropped. I blew my chances of getting back to the Australian side and Hellas went out and bought Gary Clayton from Juventus. It makes you sit up and wonder if this is the end of the line for you. It changes your thinking a lot. After all, you can't throw yourself around as much once you've had a serious shoulder injury."

"Frank Arok told me that once I got fit again I'd be recalled but it never came about. Okay, I played for Australia in a practice game down in Tassie but that was more of a token gesture than anything else."

"I feel that I still can provide something to the national team as one of three keepers along with Terry Greedy, Tony Franken or Tony Pezzano, but who knows what's going to happen?"

Laumets has made two appearances for Australia — against Greece in 1978 and that game against Tasmania.

"Some people say that the press is very influential, in picking representative sides and if that's the case then I'm worn out. I'm not wrapped in the press and to tell you the truth I rarely see 'Soccer Action' because unless you're a showman doing all the spectacular stuff you don't get an eight or nine rating."

"People are far too ready to believe what they read in the press and the press seems to dictate to people what they should or shouldn't do. I don't like that."

He doesn't have a high opinion of the quality of match reporting through the soccer press.

"Journalists have a limited knowledge of what they're seeing. A lot of the things we do at Hellas go unnoticed by the majority of journalists. It even took me a while to pick up what we were about."

Hellas didn't play well in the Buffalo Gold Cup and went down 1-0 to Preston. Makedonia, Laumets' old team, in the first round of the National Cup.

After that game against Preston some of us (the Hellas players) went back to Dougie Brown's place for a few drinks and we talked about the game. Some of the lads were of the opinion that



Peter Laumets

Preston's coach Bill method to blanket or abysmal in that stringing passes together.

Lennie (McKendrick) we've got what it takes built on tremendous to do the simple thing the Preston game to selves as individuals from '84 and we had contracts but they're not the main reason. We played Green Gully got Preston and Juve a crucial fortnight to work and Lennie has that his way is the one that, when the going switching into action. That's what will happen. Laumets was born and came to Australia Alpha City's junior when he was 15.

"About that time member training, in minutes I couldn't even

Flair, flexi Berger's

By LAURIE SCHWAB

In eight official matches before the first round of the NSL at the weekend, Heidelberg Alexander had won seven, drawn one, lost none and amassed a goals tally of 18:5.

As the most impressive side in Victoria so far, Heidelberg already has won the Buffalo Gold Cup night series, and is in the second round of the National Cup.

Matchship, flair and the flexibility of coach Brian Garvey and the brilliance of goalkeeper Jeff Oliver are the main ingredients of Heidelberg's success.

Does the NSL championship lie at the end of the rainbow that Heidelberg has splashed so boldly across the sky? Oliver, for one, believes it does. So does Heidelberg's Soccerroo defender Charlie Yankos.

It promises to be a season full of accolades for Oliver, who was voted best player of the Buffalo Gold Cup competition, during which he served two penalties.

National coach Frank Arok has Oliver in mind as a possible back-up to Soccerroo No. 1 goalkeeper, Terry Greedy of St. George Budapest. He reaffirmed a few weeks ago he wanted another talented and experienced goalkeeper, adding that he was pleased to hear of Oliver's progress.

Oliver, 24, was in Australia's 1979 World Youth Championship squad, along with such stars-to-be as Alan Davidson, Eddie Krncevic, George Christopoulos, Theo Selemidis and Graham Jennings. In various representative teams, he has played against Vardar Skopje, York Cosmos, Hungary, Glasgow Rangers, Iraklis and the West Berlin State selection. He had a particularly good debut for Victoria in 1982, restricting Hungary to a 2-0 victory thanks to some breathtaking saves.

He would like to have played more games for Australia B in the World Series last year but concedes that Tony Franken was playing too well to be left out. As it was, Oliver played in the 2-4 loss to Rangers in Newcastle and the scoreless draw with Iraklis in Brisbane. He was sound in both games.

Big opportunities await Oliver and the other Soccerroos in two international series in May and June-July, and in the World Cup qualifying matches in September — October. Contestants in the international series are expected to include Udinese, Tottenham Hotspur, Arsenal, Olympiakos and perhaps Fiorentina — but nothing is set in definite.

Oliver, like most players, regards World Cup involvement as the pinnacle of achievement and hopes to be given the chance to play. His employers have been co-operative in the past, so he's confident of getting the necessary time off from work with the RACV.

Meanwhile, he will turn talents towards Heidelberg title.

Is there a particular training form so far? "I signed a new contract season training, whereas I only one Buffalo Cup game negotiating. I worked quite and being settled so early a do with my form."

Heidelberg doesn't have over coach, but Oliver has over the years from the who has given him. Reilly, the goalkeeper in the 1974-1 played for Heidelberg and ing a few times recently to his places. Oliver trains w nights a week and one nig with his father, Ernie, w with George Cross in the 50 Speaking about the Heide says.

"We've got a lot of dep Metaxes and Steve Tassos with Don MacLeod still agrees on terms, and with and Arthur Xanthopoulos."

"Last year, we had only with all the extra talent, we shouldn't give the leagu

"The big thing about it there are no stars at the ch thing George Christopoul when he joined us. There's and we're always willing. We're all young, and we the experience that every

"Of course our coach, B lot to do with our success. man, and there's no way become stereotyped. Brian press your natural flair at Tassos and Metaxes for trying things and they're players are happy at the m looking forward to their g What's more, we have defences in the league. Ian underrated full back in Au at defending and going for he should be in the nation full back. Steve Marley, I back being Scotland so obvious what."

Oliver started as a nine Sunshine Heights juniors, Rovers from 15 to 18 and it in junior age groups before as Yakka Banovic's unders

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t met Jack Reilly I re-
him and after just 20
and up!"

"Docherty knocked the stuffing out of me when he dropped me for seven games. I really opened

sure. I'd jump at the chance, who wouldn't? But when was the last time Mr Arok came to Melbourne just to look at prospective national team players?"



Peter Laumets yells instructions to the Hellas defenders – a part of his game which has improved greatly.

ability and Olver — recipe for success

Jeff Olver, preparing to throw the ball, and Charlie Yankos — both tip a Heidelberg title in 1985.

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Mr Cool goes for stability at Juve

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Juventus, like SM-Hellas, won only one of its first six games of the season — against Sunshine-George Cross 3-2 in the Buffalo Gold Cup. It was beaten three times — by Heidelberg-Alexander, Footscray J.U.S.T., and Melbourne Croatia, and drew with Fawcner and Morwell Falcons 1-1.

The club sacked its coach, Tommy Traynor, after the first three games — against Fawcner, Heidelberg and Morwell Falcons. More precisely, it ordered him to resign!

That always will rank as one of the greatest injustices done to a coach in Australian soccer.

Now John Margaritis, who worked wonders with Juventus last year, is back. But in three games under him before last weekend, the team had lost twice, so is he too due for the sack?

Three games is probably too long to persevere with the one coach. We suggest to Juventus that it hires its coaches on a weekly basis.

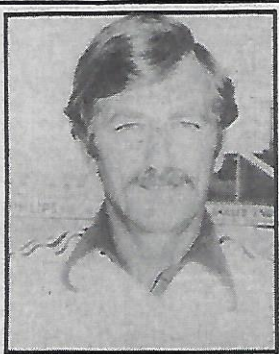
A one-week contract wouldn't be hard to honor, and because you'd need say, 15 or 20 of them during the year, you'd be contributing towards full employment by providing work for more solicitors.

Seriously, though, folks: how does Margaritis feel about being in such a shaky seat? How does he cope when committee and supporters appear to believe that Juventus must win the championship because it has bought Yakka Banovic, Paul Wade and Peter Lewis?

Margaritis, as ever, plays it cool.

"Juventus is building a good, solid team that will last for a long time and such a building process takes perhaps three years. We are not saying we will win the championship this year. We want to be at least as strong as last year, and anything above that will be a pleasant bonus."

"But I can't stress strongly enough that our main concern is to get back the sort of stability that once made Juventus the strongest club in Victoria. Between 1952 and 1956, Juventus won five straight championships, and it



John Margaritis

is only through hard work and patience that we will make Juventus great again."

About Juventus's poor early-season results, Margaritis said: "Football players are like racehorses. They need time to hit form. A coach in Greece said to me you're crazy if you think it's important to win all your pre-season games, because if you do, then when will you correct your mistakes?"

"Good teams shouldn't worry too much about pre-season results, especially in matches of 30-minute halves. Players are just back from holidays, they are not fully fit, and they are impatient because they all want to kick the ball, which means team discipline isn't always what it should be."

But he did blast his players for their poor showing in the National Cup loss to Croatia. "I've never seen Juventus play as badly as they did in the second half," Margaritis said. "We all pushed forward like amateurs and allowed them to hit us in counter-attacks. That attitude will change, believe me!"

Margaritis said it was nonsensical of the Press to describe Juventus as one of the favorites for the league championship following the purchase of Wade and Lewis. "Two players do not make a champion team overnight, and the Press must remember that most of the team has had only one year of National League experience."

That's not to say, of course, that Margaritis doesn't want the championship. It is every coach's dream to land the big one. And to this end, he is experimenting with a permutation in attack, where Andrew Zinni has moved inside to play central striker alongside Joe Sweeney.

"Now we're trying Zinni there. As everyone knows, he has all the potential in the world and he's very quick. If that combination doesn't work, we'll have to try another one. Robert Cullen can play there, and so can Joe Palatsidis who we've bought from Port Melbourne. But apart from working on scoring goals, we've also got to make sure that we don't do silly things in defence."

Margaritis stressed that Juventus, like Croatia and Polonia, was trying to establish its own home ground, while also building a team that will achieve long-term success.

Bulldust OK for pretzels and gum, but not soccer

Forgive me if I don't act too surprised at the looming demise of the North American Soccer League.

The NASL, once the centerpiece of surely one of the boldest experiments in the history of corporate business, appears bankrupt. And that's less than a decade after it looked to be roaring toward phenomenal success, when players of the calibre of Pele, Beckenbauer, Best and Cruyff were affordable and when the windup sheet of the exercise, the New York Cosmos, averaged crowds above 50,000.

Now the Cosmos can rustle up only about 4,000 a game, not something that would show up well on the balance sheet of NSL clubs, much less in a realm where heads roll if profits are not made.

Some of us in Australia will be saddened by it all, believing that because we, too, are a developing soccer country, there is some parallel and the American failure is some sort of omen for us. Of course there is very little parallel between the super-ambitious American, double-or-nothing, experiment and our more innocent, if less expert, attempt at popularising the game in this country.

We are simply soccer people with a vestigial love for a game we were brought up on in the old country. We try to sell the game not by marketing connivance but by the naive faith we have in the game's conquering qualities.

That's very different to the type, the cosmetics and the megabucks the Americans have invested in their soccer revolutions. And the Americans tried everything: Pele, daring enterprise, super stadiums,



LES MURRAY

Astroturf, franchises, the best in promotion, shootouts and even — until FIFA told them who's boss — drastic changes to the laws of the game.

But what they didn't have is a feel for the game, an awareness of its magic and the real ingredients in it which might turn on the customers.

And while I cannot be delighted that soccer has failed in that mecca of commercialism, neither am I sad that a point has once again been proven.

That point is that soccer is not a bag of pretzels or a packet of chewing gum and will never be successfully marketed with promotional bulldust.

That is why professional businessmen, who know only business but not the game's intrinsic values, have never been able to sell it successfully either here or in America.

Put simply, while promotion is beneficial in making people aware of soccer's existence, once tasted soccer has to be good enough to sell itself, for nothing else on God's earth will sell it.

Nobody who has heard my euphoric sing-songs on television about the attributes of one Diego Maradona will doubt that I'm a fan of the man. For some while now, though, my belief in the little Ar-

gentinian's future has been rattled somewhat as a result of his ill-fated stay at Barcelona, the improvement that Barcelona underwent without him, and the painfully slow start he has had at Napoli.

But his exploits in Napoli's recent match against Lazio (seen on SBS-TV's World Soccer last weekend) have again given me cocky confidence.

If you didn't see it you won't know what I mean. Suffice to say that nobody, yes nobody, in today's world football is capable of such things by sheer instinct.

Maradona's problem, thus far, has been mismanagement and the yearn for the quick buck by those around him and perhaps even himself.

Settling first in Spain, where he was always going to be butchered and was never going to be protected by the weak-kneed referees, and then in Naples, where apart from compatriot Daniel Berti, he has no one to play with, were both unwise moves.

Sure he makes more money than Michael Platini — but think, if he were playing for a team like Juventus.

If you suffer from "footballer's groin" beware!

"When fit for sprints, use the Achilles top ladder and at step 7 start a simultaneous kicking ladder — juggle the ball; stroke ball 10m; chip; drive and volley; inside of foot drive; hooked kick; tackle gently; lower-level game, channelling oppo-



Diego Maradona

nents one way only: match fit."

Sure. But what's it all mean? Well there are graphic explanations in a new book dealing with sports injuries. I should think an essential piece of equipment for any player whose livelihood might be threatened by injury.

Simply titled "Sports Injuries — A Unique Guide to Self-diagnosis and Rehabilitation" (Breslich & Foss, \$8.95), the medical advice in the book is by Dr Malcolm Read, a former Olympic competitor and now official Medical advisor to the British Olympic Association.

Perfect for players particularly paranoid about getting injured, or even those who insist on being fit when really they're not, the paperback covers every, thing from how to avoid getting injured in the first place to a sport by sport guide to technical injuries and how to recover from them.

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Australian Soccer



The Olympic Airways Soccer League kicks off each week on SBS TV.

Every Monday, Les Murray presents all the action from the weekend games. Plus 'Goal of the Week' and panel discussions. Repeated Tuesday nights.

6pm Monday

SBS

Bringing the world back home

The first main round of the 1985 Dockerty Cup kicks off on Saturday and the brave bids of Latrobe Valley side Fortuna and Leoco from the Industrial League to advance in the competition should come to an abrupt halt.

The VSF announced last week that Ricoh Australia Pty. Ltd. is sponsoring the Dockerty Cup to the tune of \$10,000 and Melbourne's NSL clubs will enter the competition for the third main round, to be held late in the season.

Fortuna takes on Northcote

Now it's the Ricoh Dockerty Cup

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

at John Cain Reserve on Saturday in the second game of a double header while Leoco squares up to North Dandenong in the first game of Saturday's double header at Monterey Reserve.

Cup holder Fawcner seems assured of a passage into the second main round. It meets Holland Park at Smith Reserve in the second game there and with Andrew Heap and Bruno Cozzella up front, should have too much fire power for the Victorian Fourth Division side.

Paddy Bannon's Melbourne kicks off proceedings at John Cain Reserve when it tangles with Geelong at 1.30 pm. Melbourne re-signed striker Danny Ward last week after Green Gully and J.U.S.T. had shown interest in him and completed the signature of stopper Tibor Drinovsky from Prahran Slavia Drinovsky will line up alongside Bannon at the heart of Melbourne's defence while experienced campaigners Gerry Edmondson and Tony Heery, who

joined Melbourne this year from Doveton and Prahran Celtic respectively, should power their side to victory.

Wembley Park is the setting for the double header featuring Knox v East Brunswick and Box Hill v Yallourn. The State League sides look too strong here.

St Albans Dinamo should beat Mornington in the first game at Smith Reserve but not before the second Division champion worries the life out of its State League foe.

With Jed Stenson and George Beattie in its line-up, Western Suburbs' dismal Buffalo League Cup showing will seem light years away.

Suburbs look far too accomplished for Bell Park in the first game at Selwyn Park. The second match at Selwyn, between Morwell Falcons and Albion Rovers, should go Falcons way.

Falcons have shown interest in signing transfer listed Juventus fullback Vince Bannon as Harry Bingham is injured.

Mike Lynn isn't going to like this, but my money's on Dove-ton to beat Lynn's Sunbury at Ross Reserve on Saturday.

Paul Priestley and Peter Killey should make a world of difference to the Doves up front, which will be important, for Paul Beranic and Ron Kreners, Sunbury's recent signings from Green Gully, both have NSL experience and give little away at the back.

The second match at Ross Reserve, between Springvale City and Albion Gate looms as a convincing win to the State League side.

Saturday's matches, with first games kicking off at 1.30 pm and likely winners in capitals.

At John Cain Reserve: MELBOURNE v Geelong, NORTHCOLE v Fortuna

At Monterey Reserve: NORTH DANDENONG v Leoco Holdings, FRANKSTON PINES v South Oakleigh

At Smith Reserve: ST ALBANS DINAMO v Mornington, FAWCNER v Holland Park

At Selwyn Park: WESTERN SUBURBS v Bell Park, MORWELL FALCONS v Albion Rovers

At Ross Reserve: DOVE-TON v Sunbury, SPRINGVALE CITY v Albion Gate

At Partridge Reserve: Broadmeadows v POLONIA, THOMASTOWN v Corio

At Croynod Park: RINGWOOD WILHELMINA v Langwarrin, WILHELMINA v Bulleen

FIFA lifts ban on Ethiopians

FIFA last week lifted its ban on Ringwood Wilhelmmina's Ethiopian players — Sisaye Kebede, Lemma Kibret and brothers Ermias and Solomon Wondimu.

The four will be allowed to register as amateurs from May 1 this year.

All four were found to have registered with the VSF last year without gaining international clearances from Ethiopia.

They are Ethiopian refugees and the Ethiopian federation refused to clear them, giving FIFA an option but to suspend them for one year.

Croydon's Cup again, French top scorer

CROYDON 3 (French penalty 35th, penalty 60th, Taylor 75th) FRANKSTON PINES 1 (Dick 20th). Buffalo League Final at Ross Reserve, Sunday. Referee: Voutsinas 6.

Croydon was in charge at Melita Stadium from start to finish, winning with ease to go into second spot on the Group B ladder.

Narabean, limited in attack, relied on its defence to snatch a point, but once Ferguson opened the scoring Narabean came forward more.

Hinden showed all the signs of a team which should do well this year with Slavski, Nastevski, Darren and Jeff Wilson as well as Forester all impressive.

Nick Kotzohambos had little to do in goal but will prove a stumbling block to many a side in this year's competition.

Melita 1 Bankstown 1 Scorer: Hosseini (BN). Vial (ME)

Melita Eagles minus Wilson, Griffiths, Jamieson, the McPherson brothers, Farrugia and Farnsworth failed to subdue an enthusiastic Bankstown National and was lucky to get away with a point.

After an early break by Meerbin and El Hosseini it was Stead who pulled down Meerbin inside the box to give away a penalty. McPherson made a magnificent save only to see El Hosseini pick up the rebound and score.

Melita came back through Lenny Vial to make it 1-1 and although controlling proceedings during the second period, never really turned its advantage into goal-scoring situation.

Manly 2 Uruguayan 0 Scorer: Campbell, Williamson

Manly is set for a showdown with Melita Eagles this weekend following this 2-0 win over an enthusiastic and at times entertaining Uruguayan.

A goal by Jim Campbell separated the sides for most of the match until Ashley Williamson chimed in to score in the dying seconds.

Campbell, recently signed from Dee Why via Narabean, was the star of this match. He was the man who put Manly into the box seat when he lobbed Rosano during the first half.

Ku-Ring-Gai 0 Fairy Meadow 2 Scorer: Mowbray, Baker

Following its surprise win over Sutherland in round three, Fairy Meadow did likewise in this match with Ku-Ring-Gai.

Polonia 3 Sutherland 1 Scorer: Groomie (S), Pop 2, Sobczyk

Baker, Mowbray and Fontana were a constant threat to Ku-Ring-Gai and with little luck the result could have been upsetting for the losers. After Glen Fontana found Mowbray with a lay cross in the 28th to put Fairy Meadow 1-0 up, Ku-Ring-Gai fell to pieces.

Five minutes after the interval Baker made it 2-0 from the edge of the box and the contest was all over.

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Nigel Groomie shot Sutherland into the lead but Pop then Sobczyk shocked the Sharks with two late first half goals.

Andrej Pop made it 3-1 in the second period which belonged to Polonia entirely and Sutherland looked very poor indeed.

who beat two men on a diagonal run then smacked a fierce shot into the top far corner for a fine goal.

Croydon hit back 10 minutes before the interval when John Cullen handled inside the area and French converted from the penalty spot.

Pines struggled to create a clear-cut chance in the second half and another penalty to Croydon, this time awarded after Dave Ferris dived down.

Brogan, again was converted by French.

Brogan chested down but shot wide in the 68th minute but a French cross in the 75th minute sealed the issue. Kenny Taylor claimed that he got the final touch, so we're awarding the goal to him.

So Croydon, after signing Bill Whitehead, Jim O'Reilly, Tansey, Matt McDonald, Taylor, Brogan and Orlerton this season, Dave Ferris dived down.

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How they got to the final

FRANKSTON PINES 2 (Thurlow 92nd, Dick 119th) NORTHCOLE 0 at Selwyn Park. Buffalo League Cup semi-final. Referee: Marek Maumont 7.

FRANKSTON PINES: Ivanoff 8 — Thurlow 8, Lawson 8, Cullen 7, Ferris 7 — Cooke 7, Ross 7 (Wilkinson 120th), Thomas 7 — Dick 7, Cumming 6, Rust 6 (Armstrong 55th, 51).

Coach: Danny McMinimiee

NORTHCOLE: Giannopoulos 8 — Stiliadis 6, Cutler 7 (lin. Panagopoulos 80th), Kouremenos 5, A. Constantinou 6 — Bekiaris 5, Toro 7, Filipis 6, Dionisopoulos 6, Patsakos 6, P. Constantinou 6. Coach: Jimmy Pyrgiolas.

Northcote's \$4,000 signing from Caulfield City, striker Tom Patsakos, almost stole this match in the 88th minute.

Patsakos headed powerfully from six metres following a Con Dionisopoulos corner and Pines were saved by sweeper Steve Lawson who headed off the line.

But two minutes into extra time, a stunning volley from Pines right back Peter Thurlow gave Northcote goalkeeper John Giannopoulos no

chance and Pines leading scorer in the Buffalo League Cup, striker Ally Dick, put the result beyond doubt with a goal in the second half of extra time.

Patsakos had three good chances in all. He latched onto a bad back pass in the 29th minute but shot over and in the 8th minute of extra time shot against the near post.

But Pines were the more spirited outfit and did better in midfield where Jimmy Ross, Paul Cooke and Ray Thomas won a lot of the ball.

Northcote's fortunes plummeted in the 80th minute when sweeper Gary Cutler was carried off with a bad hamstring injury and Pines were the better side in extra time, deservedly winning a berth in the final.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

French strikes twice, Tansey praises 'Town

French who rifled it into the roof of the net from close range.

Croydon wrapped up the match in the 65th minute. Tansey struck a long through ball and French flicked it on to Tom Brewerton who had his shot blocked by Rapuni but French, following up, struck the ball home.

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Thomastown goalkeeper Mauro Rapuni failed to hold a Tansey free kick in the 9th minute and the ball fell to

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Rockdale in charge, Sharks lack bite

Rockdale 3 Warr. Nara. 0

Scorer: Ferguson, Slavski, J. Wilson

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NSW pre-season competition with ALEX VESIC

ROCKDALE ILINDEN 3 (Ferguson, Slavski, J. Wilson) WARRINGAH NARABEAN 0 at Melita Stadium.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Blackburn — Nikolovski (J. Wilson), D. Wilson, Forester — Pappas, Slavski, Nastevski — Gardikiotis, Brown, Ferguson, NARABEAN: P. Dean — Earl (Friend), A. Dean, Jones, Geekie — Parfitt, Akoutas, Hanley, (Jack) — McDona (Gale), Va. Holden, Lowe.

MELITA EAGLES 1 (Vial) BANKSTOWN NATIONAL 1 (Hosseini) at Melita Stadium.

MELITA EAGLES: Giffin — Laing, Stead, McCoy, O'Rourke — Williams, Callinan, Allan, McAusland — Walker (McKie), Vial. BANKSTOWN NATIONAL: Smith — Rajab, Penman, Ismail, Green — Darlington, Hassan (Hammond), Hassim (James) — Caban, Meerbin, Hosseini.

MANLY WARRINGAH 2 (Campbell, A. Williamson) URUGUAYAN 0 at Cromer Park.

MANLY WARRINGAH: Conradi — Pearce (Williamson), J. Dick, Foy, S. Dick — Pagano, Steven, Campbell — Stuart, Holloway, Fox (Gabriel), URUGUAYAN: Rosano — Jones, Follados, Hastie, Krslovic — Carrizzo, Ariolo, Parma — J. Fernandez, O. Shana, Pagano.

FAIRY MEADOW 2 (Mowbray, Baker) KU-RING-GAI 0 at Cromer Park.

FAIRY MEADOW: Krajnovic — White (Chilby), Morlando, Jones, Berlinger (Kaarton) — Pell (Johnstone), Montacchi, Geadli — Baker, Mowbray, Fontana.

CU-RING-GAI: Lacey — Goalsworthy, Jesse, Bertram, Kevern — Ellem, Shearer (Bennett), Sutherland, Dene — Nile, Hunter.

POLONIA 3 (Pop 2, Sobczyk) SUTHERLAND 0 at Choppin Park.

POLONIA: Dean — A. Collusso, Vujinovic, Ross, Lasek — D. Collusso, Sobczyk, Hallhead — Janic, Mahamah, Pop. SUTHERLAND: Dart — Cox, R. Schumann (Barlos), Daiforno, Terry — Tasker, Harrington (Duncan), Rogers — Groomie, Hall-Torale.

AVALA 2 CANTERBURY 0. No details available.

GROUP A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Avala	4	0	0	10	4	8
Melita	2	1	1	8	5	5
Manly	2	0	1	4	2	4
Bankstown	1	2	0	4	2	4
Canterbury	0	1	3	2	6	1
Uruguay	0	0	4	3	9	0

GROUP B	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Polonia	3	0	0	6	2	6
Ilinden	2	1	0	5	0	5
Fairy Mead	2	0	2	5	4	4
Ku-Ring-Gai	1	2	1	1	2	4
Sutherland	0	1	2	2	5	1
Narabean	0	0	3	0	5	0

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LOU IVANOFF (Pines goalkeeper) "It was a joke."

ALLY DICK (Pines striker) "It was so dim that when the ball was coming to you, you couldn't judge it properly."

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Two goals by Graham French, bringing his tally in this competition



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

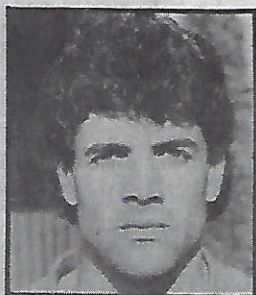
ROUND 2

16-17 MARCH

SOUTHERN DIVISION

HEIDELBERG vs FOOTSCRAY

At OLYMPIC VILLAGE 3 pm SUNDAY 17th



Theo Selemidis

YOUTH GAME —

HEIDELBERG vs
FOOTSCRAY

12.45 pm

PRESTON vs STH MELB HELLAS

At CONNOR RESERVE 3 pm SUNDAY 17th



John Yzendoorn

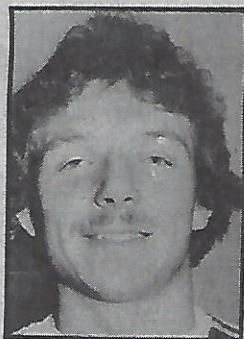
YOUTH GAME —

PRESTON vs
STH MELB
HELLAS

12.45 pm

BRUNSWICK UTD vs GREEN GULLY

At OLYMPIC VILLAGE No 2 Oval
3 pm SUNDAY 17th



Stuart Cannell

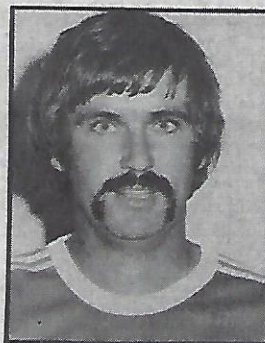
YOUTH GAME —

BRUNSWICK
UNITED vs
GREENGULLY

12.45 pm

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS vs MELB CROATIA

At CHAPLIN RESERVE 3 pm SUNDAY 17th



John Gardiner

YOUTH GAME —

SUNSHINE
GEORGE
CROSS vs
MELBOURNE
CROATIA

12.45 pm

BRISBANE LIONS vs WEST ADELAIDE

At RICHLANDS 3 pm SUNDAY 17th

ADELAIDE CITY vs BRISBANE CITY

At OLYMPIC SPORTS FIELD 2.30 pm
SUNDAY 17th

NORTHERN DIVISION

WOLLONGONG CITY vs SYDNEY CROATIA

At WOLLONGONG SHOWGROUNDS 3 pm SUN 17th

MARCONI vs NEWCASTLE R.U.

At MARCONI STADIUM 3 pm SUN 17th

ST GEORGE vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC

At ST GEORGE STADIUM 3 pm SUN 17th

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS vs PENRITH CITY

At HAWKER OVAL 3 pm SUN 17th

BLACKTOWN CITY vs INTER MONARO

At GABBIE STADIUM 3 pm SUN 17th

LEIGHARDT vs SYDNEY CITY

At LAMBERT PARK 3 pm SUN 17th